FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT National Negro Congress

FILE NO. HQ 61-6728

Section # 11

Preprocessed

ral Bureau of Invest
States Department o

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO.

Detroit, Michigan
November 20, 1946

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RH 6/8/79

Director, FBI

Re: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT [redacted] b7D
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS b2
(Detroit Branch)
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

The attention of the Bureau is invited to the fact that though [redacted] installations were authorized in Bureau teletypes dated February 13, 1946, and May 17, 1946, which contained the authority for such [redacted] b7E

From contacts with [redacted] it appears that the immediate future will see no change in this condition and accordingly, in order to eliminate whatever record-keeping might be necessary on the part of the Bureau and this office relative to the pending installation, it is suggested that the authority contained in referenced teletypes for the installation [redacted] be withdrawn. b7E

Unless advised to the contrary, this office will assume that this action will be taken by the Bureau and that the authority given this office as relating to [redacted] will be for a technical surveillance to be maintained [redacted] to which [redacted] now relates. b7D,E b2

Very truly yours,

H. T. O'Connor

H. T. O'CONNOR, SAC

:EDT
66-1457-53

RECORDED & INDEXED 355 EX-8

61-6722-54

NOV 22 1946

58 NOV 27 1946

Section 1

RD-143

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Leland
Mr. Tolson

United States Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation
500 Widener Building
Philadelphia, 5, Pennsylvania

November 1, 1946

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. 100-869
FJS/ctg

JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION OF TECHNICAL
OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY (C)
Field Office Philadelphia
Symbol Number [redacted] CONF. INFT.
Type of Surveillance: (Technical or ~~Microphone~~)

b2
b7D

1. Subject's name and address:

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
2307 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2. Location of technical operation:

[redacted]

b7E

G.I.P.-1

3. Dates of initial authorization and installation:

Date of authorization - August 30, 1946
Date of installation - September 3, 1946

CLASSIFIED BY STOP DEST

4. Previous and other installations on the same subject (with dates and places):

None.

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-16

5. Specific valuable information obtained since previous report with indication of specific value of each item and what use was made of each item of information involved:

See attached sheet.

R63

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/8/79 BY SP-1 [illegible]

5. The following valuable information was obtained from Confidential Informant [redacted] since the date of its installation, September 3, 1946. Information received from the informant is set forth in chronological order. b2 b7D

9/5/46 [redacted] advised that ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, Negro leader and President of the United Peoples Action Committee, would return to Philadelphia at the end of September, 1946. On the same date information was also received from the informant of a meeting of the United Peoples Action Committee at their headquarters at 2307 North Broad Street. Information was also received concerning the next meeting of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS on September 11, 1946.

b2, b7c b7D

9/10/46 [redacted] advised that [redacted] in a conversation with [redacted] related that members of the United Peoples Action Committee were busy publicizing the Housing Rally to be held at Town Hall on September 13, 1946. This rally was sponsored by the Student Veterans Committee of Philadelphia. As a result of this information reflecting that the Communist-dominated UPAC and other Communist groups in the city were backing this rally, agents of this office attended the rally to determine the full extent of the Communist influence.

9/13/46 [redacted] advised that the Philadelphia Council of the American Jewish Congress was taking the lead in organizing a demonstration against the "heartless and inhuman acts of the British Government in Palestine". The informant stated that the purpose of this demonstration was to arouse the public opinion so that the American public would speak up boldly and influence the government against the callous policy of the British Government. In this matter informant advised that there would be a mass demonstration and parade on Monday, September 16, at 8 p.m. at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. The United Peoples Action Committee and the Philadelphia NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS were contacted, and a request was made that a delegate from each of these two organizations be present at the demonstration. Again in this matter this office received information reflecting the extent of the Communist influence in the Philadelphia Council of the American Jewish Congress. b2

b7D

9/19/46 [redacted] advised that the United Peoples Action Committee would hold the yearly election of officers on October 1, 1946. Informant advised that CONCHITA PORTER, a member of the National Executive Board of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, the paid Recording Secretary of UPAC, and one of the active leaders in the reorganization of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, would leave Philadelphia to

move to Detroit, Michigan. On the same date informant also advised that the Nominating Committee of UPAC would meet that evening and decide whom they were to place in office for the ensuing year. The latter information was discreetly furnished to [redacted] b7D

9/25/46 [redacted] reported that the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the United Peoples Action Committee were active in campaigning for the election of Dr. JOHN K. RICE, candidate for Congress from the Fourth Congressional District on an independent ticket. It is known that RICE has the support of the C. P., U.S.A., Third District, and the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions in this city.

10/3/46 [redacted] advised that the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the United Peoples Action Committee were planning an "Anti-Lynch Rally" to be held December 13, 1946, either at Town Hall or Convention Hall, Philadelphia. Informant also advised that the Philadelphia N.N.C. had sent out letters to ISAAC WOODWARD, the blinded veteran from New York City, and to CLARK FOREMAN in an attempt to obtain JOE LOUIS for the occasion and were considering sending other letters to prominent Negroes in New York City requesting that they be present at this rally in Philadelphia.

10/5/46 [redacted] advised that ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, active Negro leader, who recently resigned as Principal of a Philadelphia public school, is presently actively engaged in the political campaign in support of the independent candidate, Dr. JOHN K. RICE. Informant also reported that FAUSET at the present time carries on his business at the office of LENERTE ROBERTS. [redacted] b7C

10/8/46 [redacted] Informant also advised that UPAC would give a party on Friday, October 11, in support of Dr. JOHN K. RICE. [redacted] b7D

10/16/46 [redacted] advised that dissension existed between ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET and GOLDIE WATSON. GOLDIE WATSON has been the leader of the Bi-Partisan Committee for a Pennsylvania FEPC and is known to have worked in close contact with Magistrate JOSEPH RAINEY, the President of the Philadelphia Branch of the NAACP.

10/17/46 [redacted] advised that ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET was a member of an Executive Board of the Citizens Polical Action Committee in Philadelphia.

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10/18/46 [redacted] reported that the Philadelphia Civil Rights Congress was working in conjunction with the American Crusade to End Lynching in supporting the Anti-Lynching Rally to be held on December 13, 1946.

10/21/46 [redacted] reported that the funds of the United Peoples Action Committee had fallen pretty low and that the group actually had a deficit of approximately $700.00. The UPAC has been known as the official representative group of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in Philadelphia. With the reorganization of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in Philadelphia, it is imperative to know in advance what action will be taken by ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, head of UPAC, and whether or not the latter organization will dissolve in favor of the N.N.C.

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10/24/46 [redacted] reported that the Civil Rights Congress would hold meetings at the UPAC Center of 2307 North Broad Street.

Confidential Informant [redacted] has been of invaluable assistance in furnishing information regarding the plans of ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, the United Peoples Action Committee, and the reorganization of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. From [redacted] it has been ascertained that the reorganization plans of the N.N.C. have thus far been considered unsuccessful. It is believed that this informant should be continued so that information will come to the attention of this office beforehand concerning the action to be taken in the reorganization of this new group.

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6. Could above information have been obtained from other sources and by other means?

No.

7. Has security factor changed since installation?

No.

8. Any request for the surveillance by outside agency (give name, title and agency):

No.

9. Manpower and costs involved:

No additional cost.

10. Remarks (By SAC):

0/5

11. Remarks (added at Seat of Government): It is recommended that this technical surveillance be continued in view of the fact that it has provided information for the Philadelphia Office concerning the Communist Front activities within that area, not only on the part of the National Negro Congress but of organizations such as the [redacted] Through this surveillance information has also been obtained showing the political activity on the part of the National Negro Congress in that it supported the same candidates as supported by the Communist Party and that it has supported the various anti-lynch and racial rallys held in the area.

12. Recommendation by Assistant Director: I have carefully reviewed the information contained herein and it is my recommendation that this technical surveillance be continued for an additional 60 days.

13. Recommendation by the Assistants to the Director:

Approved - EAG

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK — DETROIT FILE NO. 100-1049

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	11/26/46	10/2-4,7-11/46	[redacted] b7E

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS Detroit Branch	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: The Detroit Branch of the NNC is controlled by the Communists. Its activities to a large degree are being dictated from the Headquarters of the CP. It projects itself militantly in the bi-racial incidents resulting from the housing, employment and educational rights. Examples of this set out. It is also campaigning against alleged police terrorism of negroes. The 1946 objectives of NNC are all based on equal rights for negroes in the above matters. The organization has recently established a Labor Commission composed of almost wholly of known Communists to work with unions to get equal treatment for negro workers. The NNC campaign for 10,000 members for 1946 had obtained 1,334. United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, headquarters are established in the NNC offices and the UNAVA officers are known and NNC affiliates. No indications of other veterans' activities in other fields. NNC National Headquarters scheduled to move from New York City to Detroit.

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 14, 1946, at Detroit, Michigan

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SL-1 [illegible] 6/8/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 6/8/89

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES NOTIFIED 2/4/55

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. T. O'C[illegible]

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

61-[illegible]

RECORDED & INDEXED

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3 - Detroit

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50 DEC 23 1946

(De 100-1049)

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(De 100-1049)

DETAILS: The information reported herein represents the recapitulation of activities of Subject group for the period March 15, through October 1, 1946, with the exception of the Tenth Anniversary Convention of the group which was held in Detroit May 30, through June 2, 1946, and concerning which a separate report has been made by this office.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A. Organization of the Detroit Branch

During the annual convention of the NNC held in Detroit May 30, through June 2, 1946, one of the discussion groups dealt with the problem of council building. [redacted] was present at this session and information from [redacted] was to the effect that the Detroit Branch of the NNC presently has a Labor Committee, a Housing Committee and a Social Committee and within the City of Detroit the council is broken down geographically into four units, namely: the East Side Unit, the West Side Unit, North Detroit Unit, and the Eight Mile Unit. The Detroit Chapter does not have membership dues, but maintains a fighting fund which is maintained by assessments on the membership when necessary.

B. Current Officers

The officers of the NNC's Detroit Council are as follows:

President	C. LEBRON SIMMONS
Vice President	CLARENCE BRADLEY
Recording Secretary	ADA RICE
Executive Secretary	VERA VANDERBERG
Treasurer	JAMES BELL
Chaplain	Reverend SAMUEL ROUNDTREE

Of the above individuals, the [redacted] and it is through these persons [redacted] Communist Party controls the activities of the NNC. [redacted] is a fellow traveler and very sympathetic to the CP program.

The Executive Board Members of the NNC are:

CHRISTOPHER C. ALSTON *	CHESTER A. BERRY
MYRTICE ERSKINE	MARY L. HAYES
JAMES WALKER *	MASON SMITH *
FRANCES PRICE *	PAUL S. KIRK *
HERBERT FITZGERALD	MARIE HILT —
SHELTON TAPPES *	Rev. CHARLES A. HILL —
COLEMAN A. YOUNG *	

(De 100-1049)

[redacted]

b7c

The Labor Committee of the NNC is composed of the following persons:

LEON ENGLAND *)
JAMES WALKER *) Co-Chairmen
JAMES BELL —
_____ JONES
HODGES MASON *
HAROLD ROBINSON *

CHRISTOPHER C. ALSTON *
JAMES ANDERSON *
GEORGE HARRISON
FELIX MAISE *
EDWARD TOLAN *

[redacted]

b7c

The Forum Committee, the purpose of which, according to informants of this office, is to furnish speakers to address sympathetic groups and is believed to be composed of the following individuals.

CHRISTOPER C. ALSTON *
HODGES MASON *
JOHN WALKER *

FELIX MAISE *
EDWARD TOLAN *

[redacted]

Information available relative to the Social Committee of the NNC reflects the following individuals who are associated with it.

Miss MARIAN McCLELLAN, Chairman
VERA VANDERBERG *

LEON ENGLAND *
COLEMAN YOUNG *

[redacted]

The "Pittsburgh Courier" of February 16, 1946, reported that COLEMAN YOUNG was President of the East Side Unit of the NNC but a membership bulletin issued by the NNC at the same time reflects the following persons to be officers of that group:

(De 100-1049)

SAM HARDWICKE	President
Mrs. ROSETTA HALEY	Vice President
Mrs. TARCY BONO	Secretary
Mrs. MARY L. HAYES	Treasurer

It is believed that this club meets down in the Teamsters Committee Room at Schiller Hall inasmuch as the writer has observed notices of meetings posted at the entrance of this hall.

[redacted]

Officers of the Eight Mile Road Unit of the NNC as reported by the "Pittsburgh Courier", July 27, 1946, are as follows:

67C

STEVE JOHNSON	President
[redacted]	
BERNIECE AVERY	Vice President
ADA RICE	Secretary
DOUGLAS STAFFORD	Treasurer

[redacted]

COLEMAN YOUNG, who is listed as an Executive Board member, is the State Adjutant of United Negro Allied Veterans of America, a Communist controlled negro veterans club, and has been reported to be the Midwest Director of the NNC although his activities by him in this regard have not come to the attention of this office. He has been out of the Navy for about a year and presently was the organizer for the United Publishing Workers Union. [redacted] 67C

[redacted] has 67D advised that VERA VANDERBERG is going to disassociate herself from the NNC by 62 the first of the coming year and her position will be taken over by FRANCIS PRICE. PRICE, previously to associating with the NNC of this year, was Secretary of CLAUDE WILLIAMS, head of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion, a Communist infiltrated and dominated organization.

C. Claimed Accomplishments and Current Aims

A pamphlet issued by the NNC in connection with their Tenth Anniversary Convention listed the following achievements of the NNC, in Detroit, during 1945.

(De 100-1049)

Campaign for military equality

Campaign for expulsion of BILBO of Mississippi

Checked Checker Cab discrimination

Took leadership in organizing negro veterans

Fought for veterans' housing rights

Supported the General Motors strike

Secured improvements at Miller High School

Continued battle for permanent Federal FEPC

Joined in progressive labor and political action campaign

Fought discrimination in the American Bowling Congress

Worked to unify organized labor and the negro people

Came to groups with the problems confronting our people in the neighborhood through the neighborhood unit.

The above-listed accomplishments would indicate that the NNC is an extremely active organization but actually it does not have much standing or prestige in the City of Detroit and all of the actual accomplishments of it during the past year were achieved principally through their cooperating with other groups.

The same circular listed the following objectives of the Detroit Council of the NNC for 1946.

Equal job opportunities for negroes and women

A permanent FEPC

Every negro a registered voter

(De 100-1049)

Equal facilities for negro veterans

Enforcement of the Diggs Civil Rights law

National unity of labor and the negro people

Justice for our children in the schools of Detroit

In July of this year, the Detroit Chapter of the NNC lodged a campaign for 10,000 new members. The general chairman of the drive was Reverend A. C. WILLIAMS. Mrs. MADELIE FOWLER headed the Women's Division of the campaign.

In 1945, the NNC claimed to have a membership of 2,500 and they wished to materially increase this year. However, on October 15th, [redacted] reported to this office that the total membership of the NNC this year was 1,344 and that they were abandoning their membership drive as of that date. It may be noted that the NAACP in Detroit had a membership of 22,000 last year and their current membership campaign with the 30,000 member goal reached only 17,000 which, although representing a decrease, does not show such a high proportion of loss as the NNC suffered.

b2
b7D

D. Miscellaneous Matters

b7D

[redacted]

At the Tenth Anniversary Convention held on June 1, the convention voted that the National Headquarters of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS should be moved from New York City to Detroit. Since that time the functionaries locally of the NNC have been busily engaged in attempting to expedite this transfer of the headquarters and apparently the national functionaries in New York have been equally as busy trying to prevent it.

(De 100-1049)

b7D

[redacted] relative to this proposed move of the headquarters, and that there was some indication that the headquarters would be moved to Chicago instead of to Detroit, but that he was making every effort through Party channels to get the move made to Detroit. Information has been subsequently received from [redacted] that the national functionaries of the CP have definitely decided that the National Headquarters of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS should be in Detroit and a move will be made in the very near future.

b2
b7D

Keep Info,

II. GENERAL ACTIVITIES

A. Protest to the Board of Education

Commencing in February of this year, the NNC initiated a campaign to improve the facilities of Miller High School. This school is located in the heart of the negro community on the east side and is nearly one hundred per cent negro. It is greatly overcrowded and the NNC claims, in addition to lack of space, that the courses offered to this school were not comparable to those offered by high schools located in other sections of the town. It claimed that it should be equipped with a swimming pool, boys' gym, sports fields, auditorium, and have more advanced courses. They held conferences with the School Board concerning this matter and held an out-door rally on the east side in connection with the drawing-up of a petition which they presented to the School Board, demanding action in connection with this matter. The culmination of these activities was the announcement in July by the School Board that a new high school would be constructed and the Miller School would be converted to its originally intended intermediate school use. The School Board did offer additional courses requested by the NNC. The NNC also protested to the School Board in April relative to a series of anti-negro incidents occurring in the Cleveland Intermediate School where it was claimed a white instructor pushed a negro girl through a glass door and the gym instructor was alleged to have used the word, "nigger" in addressing members of the race. The conference of the NNC functionaries and the School Board was had over these incidents and it was reported that efforts would be made to eliminate matters of racial discrimination.

B. The Eight Mile Road Condemnation Suits

The city is attempting to develop a park site in the negro community located at Eight Mile Road and Wyoming. It has been necessary to take condemnation proceedings against twenty-two negro families residing in that area and will result in their being evicted from their homes. Although it is a negro

community and the project will result in a benefit to the negroes, the condemnation is being attached by the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS as a plan to eliminate negroes from that section of the city. Even though this is a most improbable stand, it nevertheless gives them the opportunity to get a lot of publicity in the matter and in July they, in conjunction with the Communist Party, held an outdoor protest gathering and at the present time the city is taking no action towards the furtherance of its park plans.

b2, b7D

[redacted] advised that the NNC is considering an organizational sit-down strike by the home owners in case they are not able to block the condemnation proceedings. The matter is at the present time in an inactive status.

C. Death Blow to Jim Crow Campaign

In May, the NNC organized a "Death Blow to Jim Crow Day" and adopted the slogan, "Death Blow to Jim Crow" for the Tenth Anniversary Convention which was scheduled for the latter part of the month.

b7C

EDDIE TOLAN, NNC member and former Olympic athlete [redacted] was reported as chairman of the "Death Blow to Jim Crow Day Committee" and they were successful in getting Mayor JEFFRIES to proclaim May 17, 1946, as "Death Blow to Jim Crow Day" and they had a button selling campaign in connection with it.

The delegation which waited on Mayor JEFFRIES to obtain a proclamation was composed of FRANCES L. PRICE, EDDIE TOLAN, KATHLEEN CHAVIS, WINIFRED NORMAN, MARIDENE BROWN, WILLIAM LOMBARD, PHIL SCHATZ, Executive Secretary of the AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY in Detroit, ERMA HENDERSON and ARTHUR BOWMAN, [redacted] advised that this Death Blow to Jim Crow Day was not a financial success.

b2, b7D

D. Activities of the Labor Committee

On April 13, and 20, 1946, the NNC held a meeting of trade unionists. They met at the Civic Center, Detroit, for the purpose of organizing a Labor Committee for the purpose of:

1. Assisting the unions and solving the problems of negro members;

2. To equip the negro worker to advance as a successful and active trade unionists for the strengthening of the union, for the fighting for negro rights as a worker and as a citizen.

(De 100-1049)

REVELS CAYTON, National Executive Secretary of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, was scheduled to be the leading speaker at this meeting, according to an announcement by them, furnished this office by [redacted] b2 b7D

A letter furnished this office by [redacted] on an NNC letterhead and dated September 4, 1946, stated that the Labor Committee of the NNC meets every Saturday at the NNC office at 2 p.m., and apparently was a mimeographed letter which had been sent to all the negro union members whose names they could obtain. b7D

No actual activity of this committee has come to the attention of this office with the exception of a statement appearing in the "Pittsburgh Courier" dated March 16th, stating that the Labor Committee of the Detroit Chapter of the NNC was having a drive to defeat the Case Bill. It will be noted that this date is prior to the actual formation of the committee.

E. Protest to the Police Department

The negroes of the City of Detroit have always alleged that they are the object of police brutality and discrimination and the negro press reports incidents almost every week where negroes have been allegedly discriminated against. The NNC is frequently referred to as lodging a protest with the Police Department over the treatment afforded some negro who has been arrested.

On June 30, 1946, the aforementioned Labor Committee of the NNC was holding a party at 91 East Willis. Thirty-six people were present, a few of whom were white. The police raided this party and arrested all the thirty-six persons, keeping them overnight in jail and charging them with illegal sale of liquor on the premises. Numerous well-known Communists were in the group. A storm of protest resulted from this incident, emanating from the Civil Rights Congress, the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the local Communist Party, and subsequently the complaints concerning the persons were dismissed but the NNC has used this incident as a foundation for a campaign to end police terrorism, and two weeks after the above arrest was made, they had a large inter-racial dance which was announced as being in protest to police terrorism.

F. General Membership Meeting

The NNC holds general membership meetings once a month. This office receives announcements of these meetings.

On Sunday, April 28, 1946, a general membership meeting was held to formulate plans for the membership campaign.

On May 19, 1946, a general membership meeting was held to organize for the Tenth Anniversary Convention.

(De 100-1049)

On June 23, 1946, EDWARD E. STRONG, national NNC functionary, addressed the general membership meeting on the subject of the significane of the NNC petition to the United Nations.

On July 28, 1946, the general membership meeting was designated as a membership rally to end police injustices, at which the principal speaker was the Reverend SAFRAN, a white minister from Marysville, Michigan, who had recently achieved notoriety through advocating complete racial equality from his pulpit.

On August 25, 1946, a general membership meeting was held at which RUSS COWAN, Managing Editor of the "Michigan Chronicle", negro weekly newspaper, spoke on the "Story of Monroe, Georgia". This related to the quadruple lynching which had recently occurred in Monroe.

All of the general membership meetings are held at 114 Erskine, Detroit, Michigan, which is the Twelve Horsemen's Civic Center and also where the offices of the Detroit Branch of the NNC are located.

G. Veterans' Activities

In January, the NNC took the lead in organizing a group of veterans who were called the Veterans Organizing Committee. This committee was operated from January through April and received the support of the Communist Party locally in their efforts to organize negro veterans in Detroit.

In April, the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America held an organizational conference in Chicago at which this organization was formed, and the Veterans Organizing Committee of Detroit participated in this conference and the members of the committee and the veterans affiliated with it associated themselves with the UNAVA. COLEMAN YOUNG, previously identified, and reportedly a director of the NNC, was elected National Vice Commander of the UNAVA. The local offices of the UNAVA are maintained at the NNC offices but since the formation of UNAVA, the NNC itself has taken no active part in any veterans group or the organization of any veterans group.

b2
b7D

[redacted]

H. Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous activities engaged in by the NNC included the announced investigation by them of the banning of a temporary dwelling at New Baltimore, Michigan, where some laborers had been imported by the railroad to work. The NNC also participates actively in the Committee to Abolish Poll Tax as do all other Communist fronts. VERA VANDERBERG, the Executive Secretary, represents the NNC at the meetings of this committee although there has been no actual demonstration of organizational effort as yet developed from this committee.

(De 100-1049)

III. INDICATIONS OF COMMUNIST PARTY CONTROL

The Communist Party domination of the officers and Executive Board members of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS is indicated by the large number of them who are associated with the CP. Appropriate notations indicating CP affiliations were made [redacted] in the first part of this report.

b7C

The regular informants of this office report there is continual contact between the NNC and local Party functionaries and on April 19, 1946, for example, [redacted] b2 b7D

[redacted] reported on April 23, 1946, that [redacted] of the NNC, contacted [redacted] to determine what negro candidates the NNC should support in the primary elections. b2 b7D

REVELS CAYTON, National Executive Secretary of the NNC, according to [redacted], was in town on July 31st and he conferred with [redacted] concerning programs of the NNC. b7 b2

On August 13, 1946, a memorial march was organized by the Committee To End Racial Injustice and Terrorism. This Committee was formed by JACK RASKIN, Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, a CP controlled group. EDDIE TOLAN and CHRIS ALSTON, both prominent members of the NNC, were, according to [redacted], active in the formation of this Committee. The NNC itself participated wholeheartedly in the program. b2 b7D

[redacted] (c)

The above contacts of the NNC functionaries with the local Party functionaries are set out because they are very pertinent. As previously stated, numerous contacts, in fact almost daily contacts, are had between the two organizations but the above are deemed most important.

-P E N D I N G-

(De 100-1049)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan:

Will follow and report the activities of Subject group.

-PENDING-

) (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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61-6728-583 pp 1 & 2

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 6 1946

TELETYPE

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Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hardo
Mr. Headon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mohr
Miss Gandy

WASH FROM NEW YORK 12 6 3-49 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, ISC. A FRONT PAGE ARTICLE BY NELSON FRANK APPEARS IN TODAYS NEW YORK WORLD TELEGRAM STATING IN PART THAT THE CIO HAS TAKEN A DECISIVE STEP TOWARDS CLEARING ITSELF OF THE TAINT OF COMMUNISM, QUOTE IN A STERNLY WORDED LETTER CRACKING DOWN ON ITS TWO HUNDRED SIXTYSEVEN INDUSTRIAL UNION COUNCILS, THE CIO HAS ORDERED THEM FORTHWITH TO DROP ALL ASSOCIATION WITH THE NNC, A COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATION UNQUOTE THAT JOHN BROPHY, CIO DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL UNION COUNCILS, CALLED ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT NOW VIOLATIONS OF POLICY MAY LEAD TO QUOTE PROCEEDINGS INSTITUTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CIO UNQUOTE PHILIP MURRAY. LETTERS WERE ADDRESSED TO THE LOS ANGELES AND CALIFORNIA COUNCILS WITH COPIES TO ALL COUNCILS. IN THE LETTER TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNCIL HE STATED HE UNDERSTANDS THE COUNCIL IS SOLICITING FUNDS AND MEMBERSHIP FOR THE NNC. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT QUOTE THE ORGANIZATION WITH WHICH WE WORK VERY CLOSELY AND SUCCESSFULLY IS THE NAACP ON WHOSE EXECUTIVE BOARD IS PRESIDENT PHILIP MURRAY UNQUOTE.

SCHEIDT

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 100-896

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN DIEGO	12-5-46	11-27-46	[redacted] HB b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Colored CP members in San Diego plan to provoke San Diego cafe operators into violation of State Anti-Discrimination laws, bring suit and divide money collected between NNC and CP. NNC sponsored political meeting in San Diego 10-7-46, at which PAUL ROBESON spoke. Reverend W. J. HUTCHESON, colored Baptist minister, is President of San Diego NNC. GEORGE LOHR, [redacted] is member of San Diego NNC Executive Board. [redacted] b7C attended recent State CP Convention in San Francisco, at which organization and activities of NNC were discussed.

- P -

NO DEC 16 STATISTICS

REFERENCE: 14 Report of Special Agent [redacted] San Diego, California, October 8, 1946.

G.I.K. b7C

CONF. INFT.

b7D b2

DETAILS: [redacted] of the San Diego County Communist Party, stated that he and [redacted], together with some members of the NNC, had discovered a way to raise funds for the NNC and the CP in a hurry. A number of cafes in the

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29 1946

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b7D

Logan Heights area will not serve negroes and as a result of this, [redacted] are making an effort to ascertain which of these places practice discrimination. After this is done three or four colored members will go into each place, get themselves thrown out and file charges against the proprietor. [redacted] said the usual settlement on such a charge is $100 to each person complaining. [redacted] and two other persons recently filed such a charge against the Nineteenth Street Cafe in San Diego and that the money collected would be split between the NNC and the CP.

b7C,D

[redacted] stated that a NNC sponsored meeting was scheduled for [redacted] at the Memorial High School. At this meeting PAUL ROBESON would speak and sing. A collection would be taken from which they hoped to raise $1,000.00, which would be divided between the national and the local NNC. [redacted] that the NNC local in San Diego really had a fine President in Reverend W. J. HUTCHESON, minister of the largest negro church, the Bethel Baptist Church of Logan Heights. [redacted] according to [redacted] is fully aware of the role the Communist Party is playing in the organization and is very agreeable to it. As an example, [redacted] pointed out that when it was announced that ROBESON was to come to San Diego, [redacted] was rather skeptical about it until [redacted] told him that the Communist Party office in Los Angeles had called to inform them they could obtain ROBESON for the San Diego meeting. [redacted] then without questioning further made all the necessary arrangements for the meeting. [redacted] is the only white member of the NNC Executive Board in San Diego.

b7C,D

b7D
b2

[redacted] is very elated over the San Diego set-up because actually the Communist Party has complete control of the organization. [redacted] cooperation should be kept under cover because of the fact that [redacted] who cooperated with the Communist Party during the recent picketing of business houses in the negro district, were later fired from their jobs. [redacted] that before the ROBESON meeting the Communist Party will sell People's Worlds and distribute election material in front of the school. A special attempt would be made to mobilize as many Communist Party members as possible so that a good coverage could be effected and also to enable the Communist Party to throw the Trotskyites out if they made their appearance.

b7D
b2

On October 8, 1946, [redacted] furnished the following information:

At 7:30 P. M. on October 7, 1946, the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS held a mass meeting in the Memorial Junior High School ostensibly for the purpose of campaigning for the Fair Employment Practices Committee. It is

estimated that there were approximately 1500 persons present about 75 per cent of whom were negroes. The auditorium, including the balcony, was filled to capacity and people were standing in the rear. Many known Communists and Progressives were observed in the audience [redacted] b7c

The meeting was opened by Rev. W. J. HUTCHESON of the BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH, also President of the San Diego Chapter of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, who introduced SAM BROWN as the Master of Ceremonies. BROWN, a negro, is a member of Rev. HUTCHESON's congregation, and took no part in the program other than to introduce the speakers. The first speaker of the evening was RAY MORKOWSKI, who represented the CIO Council. MORKOWSKI said very little concerning the FEPC but immediately launched his talk on world politics in which he censored Secretary of State JAMES BYRNES and the "get tough with Russia policy". He indorsed all democratic candidates in the coming elections although he commented that DAIL and GODFREY were not considered desirable from the viewpoint of the "Progressives".

MURNEY MINTZER, Chairman of the local FEPC campaign committee, followed MORKOWSKI and confined his address to the merits of the FEPC. However, he ridiculed the red scare in connection with the FEPC campaign, saying that the only thing the FEPC represented was the equality of race. As an example, he said that when he attended the Annapolis Naval Academy they taught the doctrine that all men are equal regardless of race, creed or color, and pointed out that certainly there can be nothing subversive about such a doctrine as this and therefore there could be nothing subversive or Red about the FEPC as that is all it stands for. MINTZER dwelled on the fact that he was a Naval Officer in both wars to give his talk a loyal touch. As explained by MINTZER, the FEPC will only give to the negroes that which was granted them 78 years ago, when the 14th Amendment was added to the Constitution. He stated that he had obtained the almost 100 per cent endorsement of the Ministerial Association for the FEPC.

FRED M. BERRY (phonetic) representing the AFL (Engineers) endorsed the FEPC stating that in the AFL there was no discrimination against negroes or other minority groups. He censored the groups who are opposed to the FEPC identifying these groups as the Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and The Women of the Pacific. BERRY stated by way of identifying himself that he was born and raised in Holland, coming to the United States when twenty-six years of age.

The principal speaker of the evening was PAUL ROBESON, who sang several songs before delivering his address. In this manner he endeared himself to his audience before his speech, as it must be admitted that he is an artist. ROBESON is an excellent speaker and was well received by his audience, as was demonstrated by their applause of his every statement. It appeared that ROBESON

was angered, as immediately before coming to San Diego he had appeared before the TENNEY COMMITTEE investigating un-American activities and was questioned concerning his Communistic activities. He stated that he had been asked by TENNEY if he were a member of the Communist Party, to which he scornfully replied "Why don't you ask me if I am a member of the Republican or Democratic Party?". He further explained to his audience that considering the condition of the world today if he were to join a political party tomorrow it would probably be the Communist Party. ROBESON praised the work of the Spanish Republicans and stated that he told TENNEY that the Committee could do more good if they would direct their efforts towards the removal of FRANCO from Spain. He painted a very rosy picture of Soviet Russia, saying there was no discrimination in Russia because of Race but that all peoples, negroes, Jews, and Russians were on an equal level. To make his statements sound authentic he explained that he had traveled in Russia, and that his son, who is now attending Cornell University, had been educated in Russia. He said that America has somehow gotten off the path of progress, explaining that in 1776 we were going forward but that today Soviet Russia is forging ahead, and will dictate the policies of the world, that we in America had better get back on this popular path. He stressed the fact that the Communists either control or are a powerful party in such countries as Yugoslavia, China, France, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, and Greece. And said that if there is a war between America, England, and Soviet Russia, we will not only be fighting Russia, but the above-named countries as well as most of the rest of the world.

ROBESON admitted that a dictatorship exists in Soviet Russia today, but explained that this is necessary inasmuch as the Soviet Union in 1917 was the most illiterate country in the world and that according to the principals of Marx, Socialism should be introduced in a Union advanced in education. The dictatorship was necessary to overcome the illiteracy. He further explained however, that the Soviet Union has made great strides in the education of her people to the point where 95 per cent are now literate, but did not say why the dictatorship had not been abolished since the education of the people. He read excerpts from a speech which he delivered in Madison Square Garden, and stated that he was going to repeat this passage every day for one hundred days.

ENOS BAKER, JR. presided while a collection was being taken stating that the money was for the establishment of a regional office on the Pacific Coast of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS; that the office would be in San Francisco. BAKER first appealed for someone to contribute $100.00. Being unsuccessful he asked for $50.00. There were no volunteers so he asked for $25.00 and received two donators. One was TONY SMITH and the other was unknown to the writer. When he reached the $1.00 requests he received several volunteers. ROBESON pledged an unstated portion of his income to the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

Membership application blanks for the NNC were passed out to all present. Before the meeting, and in front of the school the People's World newspaper was sold and literature for the NC-PAC, the FEPC, and a circular indorsing ARCHIE BROWN, Communist candidate for Governor, was passed out. After the meeting the Trotskyites gave away copies of their newspaper The Militant

The October 8, 1946 edition of the San Diego Tribune, Sunday newspaper, carried an article under the heading "ROBESON SPEAKS AGAINST FASCISM". This article stated as follows:

"PAUL ROBESON, Negro baritone, 'if forced to make a choice' of political parties at the moment, probably would choose the Communist party, he told a San Diego audience last night. Earlier, in Los Angeles, he had told a state legislative committee he was not a Communist but is 'strongly anti-fascist.'

"The time will come when we will need an organization with its roots in the labor masses which will take militant political action, ROBINSON declared here, speaking before a meeting called by the National Negro Congress of San Diego at Memorial Junior High School.

Divides Classes

"'Forces of Fascism, working in a desperate hurry, have managed to divide labor and management and Whites and Negroes,' ROBESON said.

"The singer said he had been asked whether he was a member of the Communist Party and that he had replied 'Why don't you ask me whether I am a Republican or a Democrat? The Communist party is a legal party. If I were forced to make a choice right now, I probably would join the Communist party.'

"Earlier yesterday ROBESON testified before a joint state legislative committee on un-American activities in Los Angeles. He told the committee, of which FRED KRAFT, San Diego Republican assemblyman is a member, that he was strongly anti-Fascist, but not a Communist, the United Press reported.

Defines Fascist Aim

"I, as a Negro, know that Fascism will wipe me off the face of the earth,' ROBESON declared.

"Atty. Gen. ROBERT KENNY, ELMER LAVERY, playwright, and Mayor FLETCHER BOWRON, of Los Angeles, also testified before the committee, the United Press said.

"KENNY testified in behalf of the Mobilization for Democracy, an organization of which he is honorary president, for its militant activities against the Ku Klux Klan. KENNY described the difficulty of getting evidence against the Klan

"and suggested state rewards for evidence leading to the conviction of Klansmen who use violence.

Film Reds Weak

"Lavery, president of the Screen Writers guild, told the committee that Communists in the film colony are a small and insignificant group.

"Mayor Bowron, Police Chief C. B. HORRALL, of Los Angeles, and other law enforcement officers testified that last spring's Ku Klux Klan scare was a series of pranks and hoaxes and that no evidence was found of organized Klan activity."

[redacted] The main topic of discussion at this meeting concerned a special conference of the State Communist Party, which party executives had attended and which was called to explain the functions of the NNC with respect to the Communist Party. b7D b2

[redacted] stating there was to be a NNC meeting the following night at the office of MARGARET JAMES [redacted] b7D

[redacted] attended a State Communist Party Convention in San Francisco, where the topic of discussion was the building and importance of the NNC. [redacted] b7D b2

[redacted] pointed out that all over the United States the NAACP had turned reactionary. Further, that the top leadership had sent representatives into various cities where NAACP Clubs had become too progressive and had threatened to withdraw their national charter if the clubs did not change their leadership and activities. In San Diego the national representative spent some time and was instrumental in getting MERCER RAY, former President of the NAACP out of the leadership and installing the present "reactionary leadership". Because of these factors the National CP leadership decided it was time to form an organization of their own which would draw in the negro people and give them a chance to work in a really progressive organization without interference from top leadership. Therefore, the NNC was set up. All over the country conferences were taking place wherein Communist Party members have been called together to work out strategy for setting up the NNC. It was specifically brought out [redacted] that the NNC is a Communist Party organization and that the Communist local offices are responsible for their success.

SD 100-B96

The leadership of the present chapter of the NNC in San Diego was discussed very favorably. Only the highest praise is given to Reverend HUTCHESON who is the President. MARGARET JAMES is the Secretary elect although she is presently being paid as the Secretary of the NAACP. GEORGE LOHR, ENOS BAKER, and RAY MORKOWSKI are also officials in the NNC. The coming election of officers in the NAACP this Tuesday was discussed. It is imperative to get the present President out of office. Two persons were suggested for the position- [redacted] who of late has been doing a very good progressive job and cooperating one hundred per cent with the suggestions of the Communist Party. [redacted] has stated his willingness to hold this position and also his willingness to cooperate with the NNC (which, of course, means the Communist Party, of which he is very much aware). However, [redacted] states that he will not accept the office unless MARGARET JAMES is retained there as Secretary. This is, of course, impossible because JAMES is slated to become the executive secretary of the NNC. [redacted] b7C,D

b7C,D

The second person considered for the Presidency was [redacted] However, it was pointed out by [redacted] that [redacted] does not have the time to spend on the NAACP because he is [redacted] and has other activities. Also, and more important, although [redacted] it is believed, will cooperate with the NNC, knowing who he is cooperating with, nevertheless, it is felt that he is more or less an opportunist and desires to build himself up and not the progressive movement. (There was evidence that the party is not too sure of one hundred per cent cooperation from [redacted] For these reasons he was discarded. If the meeting Tuesday night can be stacked (if enough party members can be there and friends of the party who are told in advance how to vote) then [redacted] will be elected President. If that happens, there will be 100 per cent cooperation between the NAACP and the NNC. If the present leadership of the NAACP are successful in getting a majority of their persons and friends there, then the leadership will go reactionary and no cooperation will be had from them. In this case, the CP will simply wash its hands of the NAACP and isolate it by undercover dirty work in the Logan Heights area drawing all of the active persons into the NNC. This same procedure is being used all over the United States. All those persons present were given to understand that the NNC was to be promoted as one of the top-of-the-list organizations to be pushed in the near future. Application cards were given to all those present to distribute to their friends.

b7C,D

- P E N D I N G -

SD 100-896

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

THE SAN DIEGO FIELD DIVISION

At San Diego, California, will follow and report the activities of subject organization through the medium of [redacted] b7D

FD-148

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Detroit, Michigan
December 3 - 1946

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. 66-1869

JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION OF TECHNICAL OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (Detroit Branch)
Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Field Office Detroit
Symbol Number [redacted]
Type of Surveillance: (Technical or Microphone) Technical

1. Subject's name and address:

The National Negro Congress (Detroit Branch)
114 Erskine Street
Detroit, Michigan

2. Location of technical operation:

[redacted] b7E G.I.R. 5

3. Dates of initial authorization and installation:

Phone	Authorized	Installed
Cadillac 4993	2/13/46	4/25/46
CAdillac 7199	5/17/46	5/29/46

4. Previous and other installations on the same subject (with dates and places):

Technical surveillance maintained on Rackham Memorial Building, 100 Farnsworth, Detroit, Michigan, from May 30, 1946, through June 1, 1946, in connection with National Convention of Subject group held there those dates. Had Symbol [redacted] b2 b7D

61-6728-566

5. Specific valuable information obtained since previous report with indication of specific value of each item and what use was made of each item of information involved:

(See Attached Sheet)

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57 JAN 13 1947

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Letter of Justification
December 3 - 1946

Re: National Negro Congress (Detroit Branch); Internal Security - C

The 1946 registration figures for the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS have been made available by this informant. A hitherto unknown and apparently very strong contact of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS among the Detroit executives of the UOPWA has been divulged to this office.

A contemplated reorganization of the executive staff of the Detroit Branch of the NNC by the national offices and the identities of the individuals being considered for the top jobs has been among the information furnished by this informant, as well as additional identities of NNC members, contacts of the NNC functionaries with the Communist Party and various Communist fronts.

61-67:8-516

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6. Could above information have been obtained from other sources and by other means?

No

7. Has security factor changed since installation?

No

8. Any request for the surveillance by outside agency (give name, title and agency):

None

9. Manpower and costs involved:

[redacted]

b7E

10. Remarks (By SAC):

It is recommended that instant informant be continued in view of the information which has been furnished by it. The Bureau's attention is also invited to the fact that the national headquarters of this organization is to be moved from New York City to Detroit. It is believed that this move will occur near the first part of 1947 and instant informant's value will be correspondingly enhanced at that time.

11. Remarks (added at Seat of Government):

It is recommended that this technical surveillance be continued for an additional 60 days in view of the fact that through this source the activities of this National Negro Congress may be followed and in particular the identities of the active members in the organization may be ascertained and their contacts with the Communist Party and other fronts in the Detroit area may be closely followed.

12. Recommendation by Assistant Director:

I have carefully reviewed the information contained herein and it is my recommendation that this technical surveillance be continued for an additional 60 days.

D. M. Ladd

13. Recommendation by the Assistants to the Director:

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12/21/46

) (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK FILE NO. 100-1524

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Chicago	1/8/47	12/17,19,21,31/46, 1/2/47	[redacted] JFG:elw

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: BERTHA TIPTON resigned as executive secretary of the Chicago Council of the NNC after admission of embezzlement of funds of NNC. Her present whereabouts unknown. JOHN GRAY, [redacted] has been appointed executive secretary of NNC. [redacted] Several reported leading CP members were delegates from Chicago to the tenth anniversary convention of NNC held in Detroit May 30 to June 2, 1946. Reconversion of NNC taking place in the Chicago Council. New officers include prominent reported CP members active in trade union circles. National officers of NNC also active in Chicago in rebuilding of local Council.

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C

b2
G.I.R. 5

P

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated May 20, 1946

DETAILS: At Chicago, Illinois

ADDRESS OF NNC

[redacted] advised that the Chicago Council of the NNC is located at 4619 S. Parkway, third floor, Room 4.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUAL OF INSTRUCTIONS

Classification

ACTIVITIES OF CHICAGO CHAPTER OF NNC AT TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION HELD IN DETROIT

April 30, 1946 CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] furnished a typed letter on the

b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: G. R. McGrath SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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stationery of the NNC. The letter was addressed to all trade unions, organizations and churches. It announced the tenth anniversary convention of the NNC to be held in Detroit May 30 to June 2. The letter requested that delegates to the convention be elected and registration fee of $1 to be charged for each delegate. The letter also listed donations to the NNC. The letter was signed by BERTHA P. TIPTON, executive secretary. This letter is being retained for future evidentiary purposes.

b7D
b2

May 7, 1946

[redacted] Communist Party, expected to send 25 delegates to the convention. [redacted] the Chicago Council of the NNC is about dead, having only five or six neighborhood groups active. [redacted] suggested that the NNC be revived by trade unions and foreign language groups controlled by the Communist Party. He stated that there must be a leader in each district in Chicago to take charge, [redacted] could not carry the burden alone. The following persons were mentioned who would take an active part in the revitalizing program:

[redacted]

[redacted] the CP, District 8, [redacted] will work among foreign language groups to assist in the reorganization of the NNC. [redacted] of the CP, District 8, will work among the trade union groups.

[redacted]

b1
(c)

May 16, 1946

[redacted] learned that ISHMAEL P. FLORY, legislative director of the South Side Section, had requested the American Youth for Democracy, reported Communist front organization to arrange to send delegates to the national convention.

b2
b7D

[redacted]

(c)
b1

Chicago file 100-1524

CONFIDENTIAL

b7D

May 28, 1946

[redacted] had requested the New York office, according to [redacted] to be a representative of the Chicago board of the IWO at the tenth anniversary convention in Detroit.

CONT INFD

May 30 to June 2, 1946
The Detroit Field Division secured information through the program at the convention that the following persons from Chicago were sponsors of the convention:

EARL B. DICKERSON, alderman
FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS, Associated Negro Press (also editor of the Chicago Star, Communist controlled and dominated weekly newspaper in Chicago)
WALTER FRISBIE, President of Indiana Industrial Union Council
FOWLER HARPER, Indiana University Law School

Indiana is included in District 8 of the Communist Party with headquarters in Chicago.

b7D

Confidential informant [redacted] of the Detroit Field Division reported that HOWARD MAYHEW of the United Auto Workers - CIO of Local 719 in Chicago addressed the convention and stated that the main drive in the United Nations organization of Great Britain and the United States is to stir up a war against the Soviet Union.

[redacted] C. FRANCIS STRATFORD of Chicago was appointed co-chairman of the health and housing panel. [redacted] advised the following from Chicago were elected to the executive board of the NNC:

b7D

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON
BLANCHE B. RAY
LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON
MARGARET GOSS
HILLIARD ELLIS
SYLVIA WOOD
GEORGE MURPHY (United Negro and Allied Veterans of America)

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SAM PARKS
Rev. CHARLES J. RODGERS
IRA LATIMER (Chicago Civil Liberties Committee)
M. S. STEPHENS (past commander of Giles Post, American Legion)
BERTHA TIPTON

The following from Indiana were elected to the executive board:

PAT RILEY, Gary
EDNA JOHNSON, Indianapolis
WILLIAM YOUNG, Gary
WESLEY M. GREEN, Muncie

The Detroit Field Division further advised that 68 delegates were present from Illinois and 23 from Indiana.

[redacted] b1 (c)

REACTIVATION OF THE CHICAGO COUNCIL OF NNC

[redacted] b1 (c)

[redacted] b1 (c)

CONFIDENTIAL

) (2-7-79)

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[redacted] (c) b1

[redacted] (c) b1

August 20, 1946 [redacted] b2 b7D b1 had requested Mrs. NAOMI SMITH to secure the sponsorship of the Elks Club to back the circulation of UN petitions printed by the NNC in Chicago to raise funds. [redacted] learned that [redacted] has solicited Mrs. SMITH to become a full time paid worker with the Congress. She stated she is interested in the offer. Mrs. SMITH was a delegate to the national convention of the NNC.

[redacted] (c) b1

October 27, 1946 [redacted] a printed form on the stationery of the NNC announcing a meeting of the national executive board on Sunday, October 27, 1946 at the Parkway Community Center, 5120 S. Parkway from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The proposed agenda include b7D

1. The Congress and the Fight to End Lynching, Reporter REVELS CAYTON
2. The Organization of Democratic America in Support of the Crusade to End Lynching and the NNC Petition to the United Nations, Reporter WALTER FRISBIE
3. Organization Reports on Council and Congress Building, Reporter THELMA M. DALE
4. Congress Finances, Reporter EDWARD STRONG

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

5. Reopening the decision of the tenth anniversary convention to move the national headquarters to Detroit, Reporter Dr. MAX BERGAN
6. An evaluation of an action on the national constitution adopted by the Detroit convention, Reporter Atty. HOPE R. STEVENS
7. Preparations for the next national convention of the Congress, Reporter Atty. JEAN M. CAPERS

[redacted]

b1

(c)

[redacted]

b1

(c)

[redacted]

b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted]

b7D

November 7, 1946

[redacted] a printed announcement dated November 4, 1946 wherein it was stated that the Chicago Council of the NNC was holding a regular meeting in the game room of the YWCA, 4559 S. Parkway, Friday, November 8 at 8 p.m. It apparently would include

1. The People's Tribunal November 29 through December 1 on the problems of the Negro people in Chicago
2. Report on the progress of the United Nations petitions drive to secure 50,000 signatures for the Chicago area.

This anncuncement was signed in type by JOHN M. GRAY, executive secretary, Chicago Council, NNC.

b7D

November 15, 1946

[redacted] a printed form on the stationery of the NNC. This form announced that the People's Tribunal would hold a meeting at the Metropolitan Community Church at 41st and South Parkway November 29, 30, and December 1. The purpose of the tribunal was a gathering of democratic citizens meeting in the conference for three days to further the fight of the Negro people in Illinois for full democracy. The nature of the program would concern three primary questions:

1. Securing support in Illinois for the UN petition presented to the United Nations on behalf of the Negro Americans by the NNC.
2. Organizing a state wide lobby for the passage by the coming session of the Illinois legislature of the Fair Employment Practices Act and legislation which would make restrictive covenants illegal.
3. A campaign on a city and state wide basis to relieve the deplorable housing conditions facing the Negro and other residents of the state.

The form went on further to state that the objective of the tribunal was to bring together representatives of organizat ons from all walks of life in greater Chicago and on a state wide level to fight for these objectives. It further stated that copies of the pamphlets containing the actual petition

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presented to the United Nations were available for distribution for the following cost: 5 cents for single copies up to 24 copies; 4 cents each for 25 or more copies; 3 cents each for 500 or more copies. Mimeographed blanks with spaces for 23 signatures are available for obtaining individual signatures. The Tribunal would be open Friday night, November 28 by Dr. MAX YERGAN, national president of the NNC. A registration fee of $2 per delegate would be required. In addition, contributions were requested to cover the expense of the Tribunal and donations were requested. This form is being maintained for future evidentiary purposes.

November 30, 1946
An article appearing in the Pittsburgh Courier, Chicago edition, on the same date was captioned "Chicago Council of NNC calls People's Tribunal". The article announced the meeting of the People's Tribunal sponsored by the Chicago Council of the NNC on November 29, 30, and December 1 would join its voice to that of the National Congress in requesting the United Nations to consider the plight of 13 million oppressed Negroes in the United States. The article continued by stating the condition of Chicago's 400,000 citizens would not be overlooked by the Tribunal delegates that will come from many organizations in the area, according to announcement by the President, C. FRANCIS STRATFORD.

November 30, 1946
An article of the same date appeared in the Chicago Defender, a weekly Negro newspaper with the caption "MAX YERGAN, LENA HORNE, to Highlight NNC Rally". The article went on to state that LENA HORNE and Dr. MAX YERGAN would highlight the mass rally which would open the People's Tribunal of the NNC on Friday night, November 29. Other speakers would include HERBERT MARCH (district director of the United Packinghouse Workers of America - CIO, [redacted], Mrs. NAOLA SMITH, chairman of the UN petitioning group in Chicago, and EDWARD STRONG, vice president of the NNC. The article went on to state that JOHN M. GRAY, executive secretary of the Chicago NNC pointed out that there is a wealth of human interest between Negro, Jewish, and trade union organizations and that it is their joint responsibility in these matters which will mark the success of the People's Tribunal. b7c

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES OF THE CHICAGO COUNCIL OF THE NNC

March 28, 1946
In the Sentinel, Jewish weekly magazine of the same date, page 24, column 3, an article was captioned "LERNER, MARCANTONIO to speak at Free Spain Rally". The article went on to state that LEO LERNER, president of Independent Voters of Illinois, a reported Communist dominated and controlled organization, would speak on March 29, 1946 at Orchestra Hall in Chicago at a rally sponsored by The Chicago Committee to Free Spain, a reported Communist front organization. VITO MARCANTONIO, Congressman from New York would also be a speaker. The article went on to state that the NNC was one of the sponsoring organizations of the rally. Several other reported Communist front organizations were also listed.

CONFIDENTIAL

Chicago File 100-1524

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b3
b7D

July 9, 1946

[redacted] learned that a mass meeting on price control would be held on July 14, at 2:30 p.m. at the Canaan Baptist Church, 20 E. 45th Street. The speakers included SAM PARKS, reported [redacted] trade unionist and president of Local 25 in the United Packinghouse Workers of America - CIO, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, [redacted] and A. S. STEPHENS, past commander of the American Legion, Giles Post.

b7D

August 27, 1946

[redacted] advised that ALBERT GEORGE was employed to handle the office work of the NNC in Chicago.

October 9, 1946

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D, c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PENDING

Chicago file 100-1524

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

CHICAGO ~~FIELD~~ DIVISION

CONFIDENTIAL

b2
b7D

At Chicago, Illinois

[redacted]

Will also report results of financial campaign now being conducted.

Will report names of all officers appointed to the Chicago Council of the NNC when such appointment is made and will follow activities of CP leaders in their control and domination of the NNC in Chicago.

PENDING

CONFIDENTIAL

) (2-7-79)

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TELETYPE

FBI DETROIT 1-8-47 8-23 PM EST JGC

DIRECTOR - URGENT

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, IS-C. TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCES ON CADILLAC FOUR NINE NINE THREE AND CADILLAC SEVEN ONE NINE NINE DISCONTINUED

[redacted] UNLESS ADVISED TO CONTRARY [redacted] IT IS ASSUMED PRESENT BUREAU AUTHORIZATION COVERS NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS VIZ TEMPLE THREE FOUR NINE NINE THREE AND TEMPLE THREE SEVEN ONE NINE NINE

[redacted]

C-CONNOR

A AND H PLS

END WASH DC CCW

RECORDED 15 JAN 14 1947

61-6728-389

B I

JAN 24 1947

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Dorothy

G.I.R.-5

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-3633 MFB

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	JAN 16 1947	12/4,6,9, 10/46	[redacted] b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: National office of NNC may move to Chicago rather than Detroit. [redacted] executive secretary, Los Angeles Chapter NNC believed identical with person of same name who was elected to NY State Committee, CP, in 1945. Article in NY World Telegram, 12/6/46, stated CIO in stern-ly worded letter to its 267 Industrial Union Councils, ordered drop of all association with the NNC. b7D,C

- P -

REFERENCE: Bureau File 61-6728
Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7C
Los Angeles, 11-8-45.
Report of Special Agent [redacted]
New York, 10-22-46.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/8/79 BY SP-1 65K/RH

DETAILS: At New York City

[redacted] advised on October 14, 1946 that the National Convention of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, which was held in Detroit, Michigan, June 1, 1946, decided that the national headquarters of the NNC should be moved from New York City to Detroit and that since that date negotiations had been under way between the offices of the Detroit b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Edward Scheidt SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

61-6728-59

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3-New York

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15 APR 29 1947

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67D

chapters and the national headquarters to effect this move, but that no definite results had been accomplished. [redacted]

[redacted] stated that a National Board meeting would be held in Chicago on October 27, 1946, at which a definite decision would be made as to where and when the NNC Headquarters would be established. [redacted] advised, however, that he was not sure whether or not this Board meeting was to be a Board meeting of the Communist Party or the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. 67D

On October 7, 1946, [redacted] advised that the national headquarters of the NNC was still at 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City, and that the rumors throughout the Harlem area of New York City were to the effect that the national headquarters would be moved from New York City to Detroit, Michigan. [redacted] Communist Party leaders were stunned by the knowledge of the change of headquarters of the NNC and that they felt that all progressive forces should be centered around one central location. 67D

[redacted] advised that there is no new information available concerning the moving of the national office from New York to either Detroit or Chicago. He advised that, as yet, he has been able to obtain no information concerning plans of the National Negro Congress to hold another crusade to end lynching in Washington, D. C., during the month of December, and that it is felt that if another one is held it will be some time after the first of the year. 67D

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[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D

Reference report of Special Agent [redacted] Los Angeles, November 8, 1946, reflects that [redacted], who is possibly identical with a person of the same name who was elected as a member of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party in 1945, is presently the executive secretary of the Los Angeles Chapter of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. b7C

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7C

December 6, 1946, the New York World Telegram carried an article by NELSON FRANK entitled, "CIO Acts to Remove Taint of Communism". The article stated in part that the CIO had taken a decisive step toward clearing itself of the taint of Communism; that in a sternly worded letter cracking down on its 267 industrial union councils, the CIO has ordered them forthwith to drop all association with the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, a Communist Front organization. It was further stated, acting under the rules governing these councils amended just prior to the opening of the unions' recent national convention, JOHN BROPHY, CIO Director of Industrial Union Councils, called attention to the fact that now violations of policy may lead to "proceedings instituted by the President of the CIO, PHILIP MURRAY. He stated that, specifically BROPHY addressed letters to the Los Angeles and California Councils; that copiesof the wordings sent to these two councils were dispatched to all other councils with a cover letter mentioning the enforcement possible under the new rules. It was stated that in the letter addressed to PHILIP CONNELLY, secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles Council, Mr. BROPHY stated that he understands the council is soliciting funds and memberships for the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, despite the fact that the organization has never been endorsed by the National Office of the CIO. The article continued by stating the organization with which we (CIO) work very closely and successfully is the NAACP, on whose executive board is President PHILIP MURRAY, who stated that Mr. BROPHY demanded that he be advised of the steps being taken to comply with these instructions. The article discussed the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, stating that it was organized in 1935 and, since 1940, had been under the complete influence of the Communist Party, and that it was in that year that its original president, A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, quit in protest against the Communist influence; that it was now headed by MAX YERGAN, A STEADY backer of the Communists; that although the CIO itself had never backed the NNC, it was honored by the presence of JOHN L. LEWIS, then head of the CIO, at its 1940 Convention, and Mr. LEWIS asked the members of the NCC for their support for the CIO's political body, the predecessor of the POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE, LABOR NONPARTISAN LEAGUE.

The New York Age, colored newspaper, on December 7, 1946, carried an article which stated in part that REVELS CAYTON, executive secretary of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, sent congratulations to PHILIP MURRAY, president of the CIO on his reelection at the 10th CIO Convention, and also congratulations on the election of FERDINAND SMITH to the National Executive Board of the CIO. SMITH is secretary of the NATIONAL MARITIME UNION and a vice president of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

The December 14, 1946 issue of "People's Voice", Communist controlled negro newspaper, carried an article concerning the actions of JOHN BROPHY, Cio Director of Industrial Union Councils, in instructing Los Angeles CIO to quit supporting the local NNC. This article carried a statement by MAX YERGAN, president of the NCC and REVELS CAYTON, executive secretary of the NNC, in which it was stated that the position of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, since its organization in 1936, had been one of support to the policies of the CIO and Progressive labor generally; that the fundamental conviction of the NNC is that the higher interests of the negro people and the forces of organized labor are interdependent and that this is especially true today where there is evidence of the strongest possible effort to smash organized labor. The article stated that the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS is taking immediate steps to discuss and clear up Mr. BROWDER's misunderstanding in this regard. This statement also states that the NNC expresses its view that the endorsement by NATIONAL CIO of the NAACP, is in accord with their fundamental conviction that the interests of the negro people and labor are being served through the development of the closest collaboration between labor and the negro people.

On October 5, 1946, the "People's Voice" carried an article which stated, in part, that REVELS CAYTON, executive secretary of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, had recently returned from Georgia, where he conferred with southern officers of the NNC and leaders of the CIO and AF of L on the recent wave of lynch terror in the south and also on the drive to organize the South. The article stated further that CATYON felt, from his observation, that nothing is to be expected from the policy A. F. of L. is pursuing toward negroes in their Southern organizing drive, but that the CIO had a better understanding of unity between negro and white people. He stated that the crying need of the hour is not only to unite the negro people, but to jar and shock the consciousness of the trade union movement in the South and elsewhere and all democratic forces generally into some understanding of what is going on.

The "People's Voice", on October 19, 1946, carried an article which stated, in part, that FERDINAND C. SMITH, secretary of the NATIONAL MARITIME UNION and Vice President of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, headed a delegation which called upon LOUIS SAILLANT, secretary-general of the WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS, to secure his backing and that of his organization for the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS' petition to the United Nations. It was stated that the delegation was assured that the petition would have the immediate attention of the executive committee of the WFTU at its next meeting. The article discussed the petition, which was originally presented

to TRYGVE LIE, secretary-general of the United Nations, on June 6, 1946, by the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, and called upon the United Nations to investigate the plight of the American negro suffering from economic, social, and political discrimination. The NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS was now conducting a campaign for one million signatures by January 1, 1947, in support of the petition, as well as further documentary data to be presented to the United Nations.

The "People's Voice", on November 9, 1946, carried an article under a Chicago date line, which stated that the Executive Board of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS came up with a fourteen point program as a part of its offensive against the Republican high command and the Poll Tax Democrats. It listed the following as its program:

1. Beat Inflation.
2. Oust BYRNES
3. Oust BILBO
4. Stop SMUTS
5. Support India's Petition to the UN
6. Back FDR's economic bill of rights.
7. Get Land for Landless Citizens
8. Support Anti-Lynching Legislation
9. Support CIO "Operation Dixie".
10. Condemn TOM CLARKE Firing of ROGGE
11. Flay Red Baiting Campaign

November 23, 1946, the "People's Voice", carried an article which stated, in part, that, among the organizations supporting "People's Radio Foundation" is the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. The article stated that the People's Radio Foundation opened new offices in the Hotel Albert, University Place, New York City, and that it had applied for a license to build a new FM Radio Station with a broadcasting radius of sixty miles.

ENCLOSURE for Los Angeles:

One photograph of HELEN SAMUELS, from "Party News", August 9, 1942.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

CHICAGO

At Chicago, Illinois
Will attempt to find out what decisions were reached at meeting held on October 27, 1946 relative to where and when the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS Headquarters will be established.

DETROIT

At Detroit, Michigan
Will continue to report any further information relative to moving of National Office of NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

LOS ANGELES

At Los Angeles, California

[redacted]

NEW YORK

b7c

At New York City
Will follow and report activities of NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in this area.

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: January 27, 1947

FROM : SAC, SAINT LOUIS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

There is transmitted herewith for inclusion in the Bureau files a printed leaflet issued by subject organization undated which was made available to this office [redacted]

b7D

CRO:ctb
100-739

G.I.R.5

RECORDED 61-6728-591
INDEXED
FB
JAN 29 1947

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FEB 11 1947

Yes, we know you've been—
We know what you've been through—
We know what's facing you at home!

In America today:

Decent jobs are scarce—particularly for Negroes; Negro veterans are getting a run-around on jobs and other services; the employment opportunities opened to Negroes under war pressures are shrinking fast.

The Army is still jim crow.

Southern jim crow is increasingly permeating all phases of national life. The gains made in the Army and elsewhere are more than cancelled out by the Bilbos and Rankins.

Prices are high. Housing is impossible. Wages are way behind the cost of living.

BUT THE LABOR MOVEMENT HAS GROWN STRONGER, AND WITH OUR HELP CAN HELP US SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS.

The National Negro Congress is Fighting

For Jobs

Passage of the Permanent Fair Employment Practice Bill in this session of Congress!

Cooperation with the labor movement, for unity of labor, and for organizing the unorganized. Full equality for Negro trade unionists.

Passage of the Murray Full Employment Bill!

Adequate unemployment compensation!

For Military Equality

Passage of the Powell Bill outlawing segregation and discrimination in the Armed Forces!

Expansion of the GI Bill of Rights and federal administration of benefits. Democratization of the Veterans Administration.

Increase in demobilization of Negro troops!

For Civil Rights

Passage of the Anti-Poll-Tax Bill, H.R. 7!

Passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill.

Arrest and prosecution of all leaders of the Ku Klux Klan, the Black Legion, and all other anti-Negro pro-fascist organizations!

Equality of opportunity in the cultural fields.

Votes for District of Columbia residents. Ousting of Bilbo from the Senate.

For Healt Housing Education

Maintenance price and re controls!

A federally-ministered n discrimir tory housi program!

Extension of e cation and c care!

For the End of Jim Crow in America

THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS is dedicated to securing the full rights of citizenship for Negro Americans, and for a world free of war and oppression. Together with organized labor, in America and internationally, we shall fight for this goal. A principal weapon in this effort is the united strength of individuals and organizations working together in the Congress. As we prepare for our Tenth Anniversary national convention in Detroit, May, 1946, we look back on ten years of national campaigns for the advancement of Negro rights. Among these were:

Participation in the nation-wide drives of the CIO to organize the mass production industries — helping in the organization of steel, mine, meat-packing, auto, agricultural and Federal workers wi the result that thousands of Negroes received the benefits of trade union membership for the firs time.

Leadership of the drives for jobs for Negroes in New York, Chicago, Baltimore, Washington, Phila delphia, Detroit—in larger numbers of industries and occupations which now receive Negro trainee and skilled workers.

Campaigns to eliminate police brutalty in Washington, D. C., New York, and other cities.

Launching and spearheading the campaign which placed Captain Mulzac in command of the Booker T. Washington, and eventually resulted in greatly increased utilization of Negro officers in the merchant marine.

Join

I should like to join the National Negro Congress. Enclosed is $1.00 for my annual membership fee. Please send me information about a Congress Council in this area.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....

Support

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of ..... to the work of the National Negro Congress.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....

Affiliate

Please send affiliation blanks and information regarding affiliation fees to the following organization:

Name of Officer .....

Name of Organization .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....

Subscribe

Please enter my subscription to your monthly magazine CONGRESS VIEW. I am enclosing $1.00 to cover my subscription for one year.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....

Forward Through Unity
To Full Citizenship for Negro Americans!

THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

307 LENOX AVENUE
NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

Dr. Max Yergan, President
Ferdinand C. Smith, Treasurer
Revels Cayton, Executive Secretary
Thelma M. Dale, Field Secretary
Dorothy K. Funn, Labor-Legislative Director
Arthur Bowman, Midwest Secretary
Edward E. Strong, on leave with the armed forces

Washington Office (Legislative Bureau)
1015 M STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

Midwest Office
114 ERSKINE
DETROIT 1, MICHIGAN

"Hello, you fighters!
—Yes, we know
where you've been—"

Josh White serenades the homecoming

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Lindsay
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FD-148

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
500 Widener Building
Philadelphia 5, Pennsylvania

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE No. 100-869

January 9, 1947.

JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION OF TECHNICAL
OR MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE

RE: Title NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
Field Office PHILADELPHIA
Symbol Number [redacted] CONF. INFT.
Type of Surveillance: (Technical or Microphone)

b2, b7D

1. Subject's name and address:
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
2307 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa.

2. Location of technical operation:

[redacted]

b7E

G.I.R.

3. Dates of initial authorization and installation:
Date of Authorization - August 30, 1946
Date of Installation - September 3, 1946.

4. Previous and other installations on the same subject (with dates and places):

RECORDED & INDEXED
EX-88

61-6728-57

5. Specific valuable information obtained since previous report with indication of specific value of each item and what use was made of each item of information involved:

See Attached Sheet

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52 FEB 19 1947

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5. The following valuable information was obtained from Confidential Informant [redacted] since November 1, 1946:-

b2, b7c, D

On November 7, 1946, [redacted] of the National Young Citizens Political Action Committee, discussed with [redacted] of American Youth for Democracy, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the strategy that should be used in picketing LOUSOL'S DEPARTMENT STORE.

On the same date, [redacted] advised that [redacted] contacted [redacted] in New York City with regard to arranging an appointment for him with ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, VITO MARCANTONIO and possibly HENRY WALLACE concerning bringing them down to Philadelphia to speak at the Anti-Lynch Rally sponsored by the National Negro Congress.

b2, b7c, D

On November 11, 1946 [redacted] reported that [redacted] of the National Young Citizens Political Action Committee, New York City, contacted [redacted] in connection with the Anti-Lynch Rally to be sponsored by the National Negro Congress. [redacted] pointed out that it would be impossible to get any of the speakers that [redacted] had previously mentioned. [redacted] offered the possibility of joining with the local office of the NAACP in the rally which they were scheduled to give on December 8, 1946, for ISAAC WOODWARD. [redacted] agreed to this, but added that he would still try to get either PAUL ROBESON or HAZEL SCOTT because the National Negro Congress would have to have someone of this type as the basis of their rally.

On November 12, 1946, [redacted] advised that [redacted] telegraphically contacted [redacted] in New York and told him to cancel the appointment with ADAM CLAYTON POWELL and that the National Negro Congress Rally was off in favor of the NAACP rally.

b2, b7c, D

On November 23, 1946, [redacted] informed that [redacted] of the Civil Rights Congress had planned to use the office of the National Negro Congress in order to get out some mail for her organization. This information was of interest because this office is conducting an active investigation on the Civil Rights Congress chapter at Philadelphia which wasrecently organized and has been found to be dominated by members of the Communist Party.

On December 3, 1946, [redacted] reported that [redacted] discussed with [redacted] the fact that his organization was on strike and was having difficulty getting their message across to the public. [redacted] was referring to the strike now going on with the Philadelphia Record newspaper. [redacted] informed him that the National Negro Congress and the Civil Rights Congress use UPAC's office, and he will arrange for them to send out the Guild's message.

On December 10, 1946, [redacted] of the American Committee for Spanish Freedom instructed [redacted] at the National Negro Congress that they should send a telegram to Senator CONNALLY at the United Nations, requesting him to support the majority opinion on the Spanish question. This information was of interest because it indicated the close cooperation between these organizations.

b2, b7c, D

On December 18, 1946 [redacted] reported that [redacted] conferred with [redacted] of the National Negro Congress. [redacted] complained about the fact that the members of the Executive Council of the National Negro Congress were not showing any interest. He pointed out that the same four or five people attended the meetings and that he was putting out his own money in propaganda and that they were not getting any tangible results to show for it. He added that the New York office was not giving them any help and all they do is ask for money which this local office does not have.

6. Could above information have been obtained from other sources and by other means?

No.

7. Has security factor changed since installation?

No.

8. Any request for the surveillance by outside agency (give name, title and agency):

No.

9. Manpower and costs involved:

No additional cost.

10. Remarks (By SAC):

On December 30, 1946, this surveillance was temporarily discontinued because of the immediate necessity of setting up a criminal technical surveillance.

11. Remarks (added at Seat of Government): This technical surveillance has been very beneficial in the Philadelphia Office in following the activities of the National Negro Congress and the various Negroes involved in Communist Front activity in that area. In view of this, it is recommended that this technical surveillance be continued for an additional 60 days.

12. **Recommendation by Assistant Director:** I have carefully reviewed the information contained herein and it is my recommendation that this technical surveillance be continued for an additional 60 days.

13. Recommendation by the Assistants to the Director:

OK EJ

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

February 10, 1947

SAC, Philadelphia

Director, FBI

CONF. INFT.

TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE [redacted]

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

It is noted from a review of this technical surveillance that it was discontinued temporarily by your Office on December 30, 1946.

You are requested to advise when you anticipate reinstalling this surveillance.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/8/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

G.I.R.-3

RECORDED & INDEXED

61-6228-573

FEB 10 1947

FEB 11 1947 P.M.

JDD:MH

FEB 27 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

CONFIDENTIAL

FILE NO. 100-949

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	2/17/47	1/21/47	[redacted] SJM

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Washington Council, National Negro Congress, continues under control of Communist Party. Campaigns have been conducted including a Public Utility Job Drive for Negroes, and a General Membership Drive. Other activities set forth. Local Council now in red financially and recent membership meetings reported failures. Council in process of reorganization.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 28, 1946, at Washington, D. C.

G. I. R. -5

DETAILS: At Washington, D. C.:

[redacted]

b1
(c)

EXTENDED BY SP-1 GSF/RJE 6/4/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 6/4/89

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: By [illegible]

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100-6728-17

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FEB 27 1947

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According to the Washington Afro-American, a Negro newspaper, in their edition for October 5, 1946, the National Negro Congress in Washington had announced a drive for 3,000 new members. Mrs. HELEN GARNER, in announcing the drive, stated that the organization needs more help in carrying on the fight for freedom and democracy. The writer on October 17, 1946, secured a copy of the current Newsletter issued by the local Council of the Congress. It was stated that the Congress had recently opened a fight "for jobs for Negroes in the Public Utility companies of Washington; the opening gun was a paid advertisement in the local weeklies for operator jobs in the Capital Transit Company and the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company. The Council also seeks teller, clerical, and stenographic applicants for such jobs in the Washington Gas Light Company and the Potomac Power and Electric Company." It was further stated that the Washington Council was still in the thick of the fight against Police brutality in Washington. Under a heading, "Transportation", it was stated, "The Northeast Branch of the National Negro Council which initiated the fight for better bus and streetcar service in that area, mobilized the National Negro Congress Office and other local organizations and appeared at the hearing before the Public Utilities Commission on Monday."

It was further announced that the local Council was continuing in the fight against discrimination by the United States Employment Service Office. It was further stated that the local Council had aided in various picket activities.

The Washington Afro-American for October 19, 1946, in a news item stated that it had been announced at a public meeting of the Congress that plans were being laid to open "employment opportunities in District Public Utility companies." It was stated that the National Negro Congress which had been working on the project for some time, had planned to hold interviews with officials of Public Utility companies during the week of October 14th. It was stated, according to MARIE RICHARDSON HARRIS, that the Congress had already referred Council applicants to District Public Utilities companies with little success. It was stated further that Miss DOROTHY FUNN was directing a new membership drive to add 3000 new members to the rolls of the local chapter.

b7D

[redacted] on October 21, 1946, furnished a leaflet distributed by the National Negro Congress which sets out briefly that organization's program. This program, as announced, in substance is to work toward achievement of full democracy in the Nation's Capital; to enlist all churches, trade unions, civic, youth, and fraternal bodies in an united effort to earn for the Negro people full economic, cultural, political, and citizenship rights; to aid in the organization of the unorganized Negro workers; to arouse in the Negro a sense of his responsibility to participate in political activities; to fight racial discrimination

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and Jim Crowism and to join with every progressive force dedicated to that; to fight for low-cost housing and recreation facilities in Washington; and to support vigorously the national program of the National Negro Congress.

[redacted] on October 23, 1946, reported that S. S. MIRAJKAR, alleged to be the Vice-Chairman of the Communist Party in India, was in Washington, D. C., and had a conference with [redacted] This individual was on his way to New York City to have a conference with WILLIAM Z. FOSTER and according to informant, he visited the Headquarters of the National Negro Congress while in Washington on October 23, 1946. b7D b2

[redacted] made arrangements with a woman unknown to him, who is with the National Negro Congress, to use this woman's apartment for a Communist Party Class which was to be held within the following few days. b7D b2

Both the Washington Afro-American and the Washington Edition of the Pittsburgh Courier for their editions of October 26, 1946, carried featured articles concerning a N.N.C. Delegation's interview with officials of the Capital Transit Company. It was stated that Mr. E. D. MERRILL, President of the Capital Transit Company pointed out that there was a dual pattern in Washington that is set by the District's School System and therefore, the company could not hire Negroes as streetcar and bus operators. It was also stated in the Afro-American that a delegation from the Council had called upon Major HARVEY CALLAHAN, Head of the Washington Police Force, to protest cases of Police brutality. The Delegation pointed out to Major CALLAHAN that of a total of seventeen hundred policemen in Washington only one-hundred and forty were Negroes and they also made a request that a colored person be appointed to the Hack Inspectors' Board. [redacted] and [redacted] both members of the Communist Party, were among the N.N.C.'s delegates. b7C

It was noted in the Afro-American Editions of October 26 and November 2, that the Congress published an advertisement announcing that it defends and fights for the dignity and rights of Negroes; that it fights for jobs for Negroes; that it fights to end lynching and Jim Crowism; and fights to unseat BILBO; and fights for suffrage for the District of Columbia. The advertisement requested new members and the membership fee cost was stated to be $1.00 per annum.

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It was announced in the Afro-American on November 2, 1946, that the Redcaps at Union Station in Washington topped the list of new members recruited during the then current membership campaign. This was announced by Mrs. DOROTHY FUNN of the local Council in Washington.

It might be noted that on November 8, 1946, the Communist Party in Washington held a mass meeting at the National Press Club Auditorium at which time ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, National Committee member of the Communist Party, was the featured speaker. According to [redacted] the Communist Party decided to hold a dinner reception for FLYNN after the meeting. DOROTHY FUNN of the N.N.C., [redacted] was Chairman and was in charge of extending the proper invitations to various individuals to be invited. [redacted] ELIZABETH SEARLE suggested to FUNN that it would be a nice gesture for the N.N.C. to sponsor an informal luncheon for FLYNN. It was decided to do this and MARIE RICHARDSON and FUNN were to be present. [redacted] this luncheon was to be held at the Hollywood Restaurant in Washington.

b7D
b2

On November 9, 1946, there appeared in the Washington Edition of the Pittsburgh Courier an advertisement in which it was announced that applicants were to appear at the N.N.C. Office for jobs in the Capital Transit Company and other Public Utility companies in Washington. It was stated that the N.N.C. "starts fight for jobs."

Appearing elsewhere in this edition was an announcement that the National Negro Congress was circulating petitions which were to be placed before the United Nations Social and Economic Council, said petitions protesting treatment of Negroes in the United States and calling for an investigation of this economic, social, and political discrimination. It was also announced that the Congress was one of the organizations active in the "Oust BILBO Campaign."

On November 9, 1946, the Washington Afro-American ran a headline story concerning the death of CHARLES W. SCOTT, Negro, who had died in the District of Columbia Jail a few days before; also stating that the N.N.C. and the N.A.A.C.P. were making separate probes of the affair. By way of information, it might be stated that SCOTT was apprehended by two Metropolitan Police Officers while driving a stolen automobile and in an attempt at a get-away, one of the Police Officers clung to the side of the automobile which ran into a truck, killing the Policeman. SCOTT was taken to a District Court and a Judge, observing that he was injured, requested that he be returned to a hospital. However, before he was taken to the hospital, he died in the Jail. Considerable publicity was given to this

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so-called "SCOTT Case" for several weeks; continuing in the Negro Press up until December, 1946. During this time several investigations were made by official bodies and other investigations were made by various Negro organizations including the N.N.C. The N.N.C. made use of Police negligence and brutality but according to [redacted] 67D the N.N.C. apparently had some doubt in their own minds that the Police were guilty of any brutality. During the investigation, the N.N.C. engaged the services of one, Dr. ROBERT JANSON, Head of the Department of Pathology at Howard University Medical School, whose report according to the N.N.C. as to the cause of SCOTT's death was at variance with that of the Coroner.

The Washington Afro-American for November 9, in connection with the N.N.C. campaigns for jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities carried news that delegates from the N.N.C. had visited officials of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company and officials of the Washington Gas Light Company who had both advised in substance that they were opposed to the integration of colored employees into the general staffs of those companies. Mrs. MARIE HARRIS, according to press reports, led these delegations. It was stated that the basis for the view taken by officials of these companies was that the "time is not ripe for it."

67D

[redacted] meeting of the Congress, the purpose of which was to let the membership know that the United Nations Petition Campaign had been extended to December 15, 1946. [redacted] BILL TYMOUS, Organizational Secretary, gave a report on the SCOTT Case, accusing the Police Department of negligence in not taking SCOTT to a hospital. TYMOUS intimated that SCOTT died as a result of Police brutality although he did not say that. At this meeting those present were given what was referred to as United Nations Petition Campaign Kits. These kits consisted of literature and lapel buttons which were to be distributed.

It was announced in the Afro-American on November 16, 1946, that the campaign of the Congress for 3,000 additional members was making rapid progress. Featured with the article was a picture of the Membership Committee at a meeting. This picture included DOROTHY FUNN and MARIE HARRIS.

[redacted] 67D 62 61

100-941

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] (c)

[redacted] and other Party functionaries had a discussion during which [redacted] pointed out that the National Negro Congress needs political leadership by the Communist Party, particularly in the Northeast Section of Washington. b2 b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] of the Congress was held at which time DOROTHY FUNN announced a door-to-door campaign to get signatures on the UN Petitions. This campaign was to be inaugurated after a dinner at her home on the 26th of November. She also pointed out that there was a severe lack of participation of the membership of the Congress in the various programs of the organization. It was suggested that new leaders for the Northeast and Southwest Clubs of the Congress be considered. b7D

[redacted] advised [redacted] that the N.N.C. members in Washington were attempting to raise $200 for a Christmas present for DOROTHY FUNN. b7D b2

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] Meeting of the National Negro Congress, at which time the meeting was chaired by CHARLES S. HILL, a former member of the Communist Party [redacted] very few members appeared at the meeting and that HILL suggested that the N.N.C. attempt to secure the Phyllis Wheatley Annex of the Y.W.C.A. for future meetings. In discussing the SCOTT Case, he pointed out that Police brutality was on the

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upsurge and that the N.N.C. investigation pointed to negligence on the part of the Police but that no acts of brutality on the part of the Police could be proven in the case of SCOTT's death. HILL stated that he would have to give justice where justice was due and clear the Police of brutality in that case.

[redacted] had advised [redacted] on December 4, that the Congress would have to raise $1500 for expenses incurred during the SCOTT Case. According to the Pittsburgh Courier for December 14, 1946, MARIE RICHARDSON of the N.N.C. in Washington, had advised that she could not make a statement concerning the letter which had been sent to all industrial union councils of the C.I.O. by JOHN BROPHY in which he announced that in the future, industrial union councils of the C.I.O. would drop all association with the N.N.C. It was stated in the news item that the order was apparently in line with the C.I.O. program to rid itself of "obvious Communistic followers."

b2 b7D

The same edition of this paper carried an advertisement which in substance requested the Negro citizens of Washington, D. C., to stop Police brutality by contributing to the campaign sponsored by the National Negro Congress and also by becoming a member of the Congress for the price of $1.00.

In connection with the JOHN BROPHY letter mentioned above, the Afro-American for December 14 in a featured news item, stated in substance that the (District of Columbia) C.I.O. Industrial Union Council, and leaders of the National Negro Congress had refused to discuss relations between the two groups.

[redacted] advised them that the American Crusade to End Lynching was meeting in Washington on January 2 and 3 and that the Crusade was being sponsored by the N.N.C., the N.N.A.C.P., the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and the N.C.N.W., and others. He advised them further that the Communist Party in Washington was politically responsible to have twenty-five delegates present during the conference. He also stated that the Communist Party in Washington would cooperate with the National Negro Congress during this conference.

b2 b7D

The Pittsburgh Courier for December 21, 1946, carried a news item concerning the visit of a National Negro Congress delegation to officials of the telephone company and gas company in Washington. According to the article, officials of the telephone company have stated that their policy of distributing jobs according to race was "general policy." It was stated that officials of the gas company in replying to this question, stated that they had never attempted any educational programs to teach employees, racial tolerance.

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b7D

According to [redacted] the American Crusade to End Lynching held their conference as scheduled in the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Washington. Among the speakers were PAUL ROBSON and MAX YERGAN. [redacted] ROBSON in making his address thanked the various organizations for their help and dwelt particularly upon the National Negro Congress. During his speech, he commented, using his hands for emphasis and in a very dramatic fashion, that the trouble with the people in America was that they did not have an actual understanding of Marxism and did not really understand Soviet Russia.

[redacted] the Congress in Washington is in severe financial straits; that an outstanding debt is due in the amount of $1000; that the telephone in the office has been removed by the telephone company because of an unpaid balance due; and that of the 3300 members claimed by the Council only a dozen or so ever appear at membership meetings. [redacted] anyone who contributed a dollar to the SCOTT Case or to the United Nations Petition Campaign was automatically made a member of the Council but that the Council has neglected to send these new members membership cards and that most if not all of them are not even aware of the fact that they are members. [redacted] some 2400 individuals do hold membership cards in Washington. [redacted] the Council is under the complete control of the Communist Party in Washington and that at the present time the Congress is in the process of reorganization. [redacted] during December [redacted] received information that DOROTHY FUNN had returned to New York City; however [redacted] was unable to learn whether this was a permanent or temporary move.

b7D

-PENDING-

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION:

At Washington, D. C.:

Will continue to follow and report the various activities of the local chapter of the National Negro Congress in Washington.

Will particularly follow the reorganization program and report all information becoming available pertaining to Communist Party influence in this organization.

CONFIDENTIAL

) (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☑ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(2), (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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61-6728-594 p10

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St. Louis File No. 100-739

Re: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DELINQUENCY:

The subject organization is one of the important negro front organizations of the Communist Party on a nation-wide basis, and the file reflects some important activities of the subject organization within the St. Louis Field Division. This case was opened here on May 26, 1946; however, to date no report has been submitted.

In view of the above, a report should be submitted within thirty days.

EXPLANATION:

This will be done.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/11/79 BY SP-1 GSK/LB

61-6728
NOT RECORDED
FEB 20 1947

INSPECTION REPORT
ST. LOUIS OFFICE
SAC NORRIS
FEBRUARY 14, 1947

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nease
Mr. Carson
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Gandy

~~SECRETARY CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 17, 1947

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

CONF. INFT.

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE [redacted]
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

declassified by SP-1 GSK/RLT 6/11/79

b2
b7D

Reference is made to your letter dated February 10, 1947.

This surveillance has been temporarily discontinued because of the installation of several criminal technical surveillances. In view of the fact that these criminal surveillances are still being maintained, there has not been an opportunity to re-install the technical surveillance on the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. It is anticipated that when the opportunity does arise this technical surveillance will be re-installed.

JIG:MPM
100-869

G.I.R.-5

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
NOTIFIED BY WRITING
SUBJECT LETTER
DATE 2/4/82 Declassification SP-1 GSK/RLT

RECORDED
INDEXED

161-6728-51

F B I
FEB 20 1947

50 FEB 25 1947

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 100-77

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Memphis, Tennessee	2/15/47	9/25;10/2,14,28; 12/14/46-1/15/47	[redacted] b7c FP

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Local Memphis Chapter of National Negro Congress held organizational meeting at LeMoyne College, negro college, October 12, 1946, attended by approximately 26 F.T.A.A.W., CIO members and white CIO leaders from F.T.A.A.W. and N.M.U. Due to pressure exerted by high CIO officials in Memphis area as well as officials of LeMoyne College instant organization has become dormant inasmuch as it has been represented as a Communist front organization. [redacted] of Local 19, F.T.A.A.W., CIO, attended tenth annual convention of N. N. C., Detroit, Michigan May 30 through June 2, 1946. National CIO Headquarters, Washington, D.C. has prohibited all local CIO Industrial Union Councils from affiliating with and supporting instant organization.

G.I.R.-5

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated August 30, 1946. b7c

DETAILS: Information set out in referenced report reflected at the Tenth Annual Convention of subject organization three unidentified delegates were in attendance from the state of Tennessee. This report also reflected that one ADONIA GRANT, Nashville, Tennessee, was elected to the Executive Board, [redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R.S. Hostetter SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 61 - 6728 - 5

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MAR 3 - 1947

[redacted] In addition the following investigation was conducted in Nashville, Tennessee by Special Agent [redacted] b7C

[redacted] advised that through a highly confidential and reliable source he had learned that there has been no local chapter of the National Negro Congress organized in Nashville and that appropriate coverage has been developed in order that this office will immediately be notified should such an organization be developed at some future date. b7D

The following investigation was conducted in Memphis, Tennessee:

On September 25, 1946, [redacted] advised that it had come to his attention on good authority that KARL KORSTEAD, District Representative of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers, CIO, and WILLIAM E. DAVIS, Port Agent, National Maritime Union, CIO, were attempting to organize some sort of negro organization, the exact name and nature of which he at the time was unable to determine. He also advised that it had come to his attention that JOHN MACK DYSON, negro, Vice-President of Local 19 of Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers, and a woman, A. B. BARTLETT, negro, a stenographer at the office of Local 19, had both attended the National Convention of the National Negro Congress held sometime around June of 1946. b7D

He also advised that the above individuals had been soliciting subscriptions of all visitors to the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Hall, located at 66 South Third Street, Memphis, to the "Peoples Voice", at the rate of $5 for six months. It will be noted that the "Peoples Voice" is a weekly news publication formerly edited by ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, negro congressman from New York City, and has apparently very closely followed the existing Communist Party lines in the United States.

CONF. INFT.

[redacted] b7D

were organizing a local chapter of the National Negro Congress and that an organizational meeting was to be held in the auditorium of LeMoyne College a negro institution located at McDowell and Walker Avenue, Memphis, said meeting to be held on night of October 12, 1946.

[redacted] an organizational meeting of instant organization on the night of October 12, and b7D

that about twenty-five negroes were in attendance and to the best of his understanding they were all members of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers. This meeting was presided over by JOHN MACK DYSON and also on the speakers' platform were KARL KORSTEAD, white, local representative of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers, LARRY LARSON, Regional Director, Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers, LAWRENCE E. McGURTY, white, member of Central CIO Staff, Memphis, and Mrs. KARL KORSTEAD. This meeting was largely dominated by KORSTEAD who did most of the talking, however, DYSON did state he had applied to the National Negro Congress Headquarters for a charter but had not as yet received it but was expecting it at any time.

At this time DYSON requested that nominations be made for officers for the Local Chapter but KORSTEAD interceded and suggested that the group hold this in abeyance until such time as they could make efforts to interest other social and labor groups in Memphis in entering into the National Negro Congress in order that it might become more cosmopolitan in nature and to gain in support. KORSTEAD also told the audience that HOLLIS FREEMAN PRICE, Colored, President of LeMoyne College, had told him that this would be the last meeting for the National Negro Congress to hold at LeMoyne College, inasmuch as the National Negro Congress was considered to be a Communist Front Organization and that its continued presence or connections in any way with LeMoyne College would prove to be a detriment to the LeMoyne institution as well as its student body and alumni. PRICE did not attend the instant meeting.

KORSTEAD then told the audience that the purpose of the organization was to promote better understanding and mutual cooperation between the whites and negroes. He went on to state that only a small segment of the white society hate and discriminate against the negro and that more whites would automatically associate with the negroes if it were not for the traditional taboo which had been placed on white-negro relations. KORSTEAD then relied on history to prove its points and mentioned General Oglethorpe, founder of the State of Georgia, who had very vehemently opposed slavery and who had tried to promote better racial understanding during his day but that his efforts had been thwarted by reactionary white slave masters.

KORSTEAD went on to point out that there are millions of white people who would be eager and glad to associate with negroes if it were not that they would be ostracized by reactionary elements in the white race.

[redacted] stated that in his opinion KORSTEAD's talk was very flambouyant and hate inspiring and that its purpose was to point out to the negroes in attendance that they were suppressed and that he, a white man, was there to help them improve their lot.

677

[redacted] advised that WILLIAM DAVIS, LAWRENCE McGURTY, and LARRY LARSON, mixed freely among negroes in attendance but took no active part in speaking activities and he stated that at the conclusion of the meeting KORSTEAD read a number of poems from a book entitled, "Clods of Southern Earth", by DON WEST of Oglethorpe University. It will be noted that this book of poems was written by DON WEST who is believed to be the brother-in-law of MIKE ROSS [redacted] who has been active throughout the South and is presently some place in the Carolinas. The proposed dues on organization were to be $1 per month and the next organizational meeting was scheduled to be held on October 26, 1946, at an unknown location. b7D

[redacted] there would be no further meetings inasmuch as certain unidentified officials in Memphis had indicated displeasure in the existence of such organization and that he felt that for the time being the organization would have to hold off its efforts in Memphis. b7D

[redacted] Mr. W. A. COPELAND, Regional Coordinator for CIO in Memphis, as well as Mr. EARL A. CROWDER, District Representative for United Steel Workers of America and PAUL CHRISTOPHER, also a coordinator, CIO, in state of Tennessee, with headquarters at Knoxville, Tennessee, had exerted pressure on Local 19 of Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers, to cease and desist from any further organizational efforts for the National Negro Congress having labeled it as Communist organization and further that there was no place for such an organization in Memphis. b7D

[redacted] a reliable source had informed him that [redacted] formerly a staff member of the Central CIO Party in Memphis, had been fired from his position because of his attempted affiliation with the National Negro Congress and for his refusal to promise to refrain from such affiliations in the future. [redacted] having stated that he did not believe in "redbaiting" and that if he wanted to associate with Communists he would continue to do so despite what anyone might tell him. It has recently been determined that [redacted] has left Memphis and is presently affiliated with the Food, Tobbaco, Agricultural and Allied Workers in Charleston, South Carolina. b7D b7C

[redacted], JOHN BROPHY, Director of all CIO State and Municipal Industrial Union Councils of the industrial organizations, had addressed a letter to Mr. PHILLIP CONNOLLY, Secretary of the Los Angeles, California, CIO Industrial Union Council excoriating CONNOLLY and the council for endorsing and raising funds for National Negro Congress. BROPHY indicated in this letter that the b7D

CIO is no longer to support such organizations as the National Negro Congress and similar Communist front organizations and he was demanding an immediate explanation of CONNOLLY's actions in this regard as well as a statment of his intention to refrain from such indorsements and affiliations in the future and he set January 1, 1947 as a deadline for CONNOLLY's reply.

He also sent a copy of this letter to MERVIN RATHBONE, the California State CIO Union Council and advised that if future unauthorized affiliations were known, or aid given to any outside organizations, that any such council committing such an act would be suspended and probably its charter would be revoked by National CIO Headquarters.

b7D

[redacted] this action resulted partially from an undercurrent and not generally publicized steps taken by various influential CIO officials at the 8th National Convention of the CIO held at Atlantic City in late November, 1946, when the conservative faction of the CIO had indicated unofficially that within the next year or so concerted efforts will be made to remove Communists and fellow travelers from influential positions in the CIO.

b7D

Recent contacts with [redacted] and [redacted] have indicated that there has been no indication that any meeting of the National Negro Congress has been held in Memphis but that [redacted] did indicate that the National Council of the National Maritime Union had recently contributed $2500 to the National Headquarters of instant organization.

In view of the lack of evidence of any recent activities on the part of National Negro Congress no further investigation is being currently conducted in this matter by this office but this office will be alert to detect any indication of further activities at which time it will be reported as completely as possible.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

) (2-7-79)

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XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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61-6728-596 p6

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated At NEW YORK			File No. 100-86 CTG
Report Made At PHILADELPHIA, PA.	Date Made 3/5/47	Period For Which Made 2/17,18,19/47	Report Made By [redacted] b7c
Title NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS 15308			Character of Case INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Synopsis of Facts: Efforts have been made through the summer and fall of 1946 to reorganize the local chapter of the National Negro Congress in Philadelphia. The organization claims a membership from 700 to 1000, but actually they number only 40. Present activities are directed by THOMAS NABRIED, [redacted] Officers for 1947 are RAYMOND R. TAYLOR, Chairman; THOMAS NABRIED, Vice-Chairman; and WILLIAM D. RIDGEWAY, Executive Secretary.

- P -

Reference: Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c
Dated 8/30/46 at Detroit, Michigan.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/11/79 BY SP-1 65K/RA

Approved and Forwarded: L. V. Boardman SAC

Do Not Write in These Spaces

100-6728-597

37 MAR 8 1947

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2 - SID, Phila.
1 - ONI, Phila.
3 - Philadelphia

PH FILE 100-869

DETAILS:

The details of this report are being broken down into (1) the activities of the National Negro Congress on a national basis, and (2) the activities of the local chapter of the National Negro Congress at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

b7D
b2

[redacted] a letter written on the stationery of the National Negro Congress, New York City, and directed to PHIL BART, District Organizer of the Communist Party at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This letter read as follows:

"April 17, 1946

"Dear Mr. BART:

"As you know the National Negro Congress has scheduled its 10th Anniversary Convention in Detroit for May 30th through June 2nd.

"I have been placed in charge of delegations from the industrial cities along the Eastern Seaboard. Through Mr. Winston's suggestion I am enclosing a copy of my tentative itinerary in order that you may be apprized of my date of arrival in Philadelphia.

"At that time I would like to discuss with you and other members of your staff a quota for the area over which you have jurisdiction. Further we would ask that you be considering a person to be placed full time on this job for the area.

"I am also contacting the Executive Secretary of the United Peoples' Action Committee, an affiliate of ours, to schedule a meeting for me with trade union and community leaders the day after my conference with you. Any assistance you can give in this latter matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ DOROTHY K. FUNN

DOROTHY K. FUNN
Legislative Director"

61-6728-5??

[redacted] a letter sent out by the Communist Party, 250 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to all Section Organizers and to all leading trade unionists. This letter read as follows: b2 b7D

"May 1, 1946

"Dear Comrades:

"Enclosed you will find Calls to the 10th Convention of the National Negro Congress, which will convene in Detroit on May 30th, at 10 a.m.

"It is very urgent that this Convention receive the strongest support we can muster from our State. Our attention or lack of attention will be a factor in determining its success.

"The District of Eastern Pennsylvania has set a quota of 75 delegates - to come from Labor, Religious, Civil, Fraternal and Educational organizations. The time is short and will require placing someone in charge of contacting organizations in your Section for delegate at once.

"As you know, the National Negro Congress played a very important role in the early drive to organize the CIO among the Negro people, and the coming drive of both CIO and AFL in the South. It will serve to further strengthen Negro and white unity in the North, to help combat growing reaction and prepare the Negro people as a greater force for independent political action.

"It is urgent that you act immediately on this matter and keep the District office informed on its progress.

Comradely yours,

TOM NABRIED"

Referenced report, which set out information regarding the 10th Anniversary Annual Congress, National Negro Congress, held at Detroit, Michigan, May 30 through June 2, 1946, listed the following information regarding delegates from Philadelphia:

Listed among the sponsors of the convention was ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, President of the United Peoples Action Committee. FAUSET is a militant Negro, who has led the activities of U.P.A.C. at Philadelphia,

Pennsylvania. This organization, although its activity recently has been somewhat curtailed, is known to be dominated by members of the Communist Party at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The referenced report also listed ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET as Co-Chairman of the Civil Rights Panel.

A list of members of the Executive Board contained the names of ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, DONALD HENDERSON, CONCHITA M. PORTER. DONALD HENDERSON is General President of the Food, Tobacco, and Agricultural Workers Union [redacted] CONCHITA PORTER was formerly the Secretary of United Peoples Action Committee; and since the time this convention was held, she moved to Detroit, Michigan. b7C

The report indicated that sixteen delegates attended from Pennsylvania, and among these was WILLIAM D. RIDGEWAY of Philadelphia. RIDGEWAY is Executive Secretary of the local chapter of the National Negro Congress and is a representative of the National Alliance of Postal Employees.

On July 18, 1946, [redacted] b7D [redacted] information to the effect that the Washington Council of the National Negro Congress, 1015 "M" Street Northwest, Washington, D. C., had advised the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Negro Congress that the following had been adopted as their program and requested that the local chapters throughout the country proceed along the same line. This program read as follows:

"Objectives:

"The objective of the Washington Council of the National Negro Congress is to achieve full democracy in the Nation's capital and the broadest mobilization of all the people of the District of Columbia behind a forward looking reconversion program to insure a lasting peace with security and prosperity for all ... regardless of station, race or creed.

"We propose to enlist all churches, trade unions, civic, youth and fraternal bodies and all other organizations and individuals that may be interested in a united effort; and to earn for the Negro people in our community and in the Nation, economic, cultural, political equality and full rights of citizenship.

"Second Bill of Rights Adapted for D. C.

"Our basic economic and cultural aims are best expressed in the Second Bill of Rights as they are particularly applicable to the District of Columbia. Among these are:

"1. The right of all peoples in the District of Columbia, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, to a useful job in the industries and shops of the Nation's Capital, including public utilities, the District and Federal Government Agencies.

"2. The right of all peoples to earn enough to provide adequate food, clothing and recreation.

"3. The right of every business man, large and small and whatsoever station in life, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom.

"4. The right of every family to a decent home and adequate recreational facilities free from segregation.

"5. The right of all races and creeds to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health through hospital care, free from segregation.

"6. The right of all peoples to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident and unemployment.

"7. The right of all to a good education free from segregation.

"(Adapted from President ROOSEVELT's message on the State of the Union on June 1, 1944)

"Cooperation with Labor

"In addition we believe it our duty to aid in the organization of the unorganized Negro workers and to unite them with their white brothers for common action for their mutual aid and protection into labor unions --- AFL, CIO, the Brotherhoods, and all bona fide independent unions--and to secure for them the right to equal participation in all trade unions so as to bring about a more effective organization of the working men and women of America, regardless of race, creed, color or nationality.

"Political Aims

"Politically we seek the cooperation of every organization in the city for:

"a. The right of franchise for the District residents.

"b. The right of Negro citizens to serve on juries.

"c. Full representation of the District residents in the Congress of the United States.

"We pledge ourselves to fight racial discrimination and Jim Crowism in any form in which it may show itself in our community and in the Nation; to join with every individual and organization in the attainment of unequivocal democracy, economic security and freedom.

"Our organization is established as a non-partisan, non-sectarian body. We do not aim to duplicate the work of existing organizations, but to work in accord with them.

"As a present guide to political action, we urge full support of the following legislative and programmatic measures which embody our objectives for the District of Columbia and for the Nation.

"1. For full, complete and real suffrage in the District of Columbia.

"a. Passage of McCarran Bill granting municipal government for the District.
"b. Passage of Capper Resolution giving residents of the District national suffrage.

"2. For complete civil liberty.

"a. Passage of Civil Rights Bill.

"3. For adequate low cost housing and recreation.

"a. Passage of the Bill with an amendment outlawing segregation.
"b. Rescinding the un-American discriminatory by-laws of the Welfare and Recreation Board.

"4. Full support of the national program of the National Negro Congress.

"a. Jobs.

Full and fair employment for all organizations, and integration of Negroes into trade unions.

"b. Equal participation of all Veterans in the GI Bill of Rights and other benefits accruing to them as fighters for Democracy.

"c. Housing, health and recreation without segregation or discrimination.

"d. Key legislative issues.

"1. A permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee with an adequate staff and budget. Support of HR 2232 and S 101.

"2. Passage of the Anti-Poll Tax Bill, HR 7, without delay.

"3. Full employment."

On September 19, 1946, [redacted] b7D b2 [redacted] a letter printed on the stationery of the National Negro Congress, National Office, 307 Lennox Avenue, Room 204, New York, 27, New York. The letter was addressed to PHIL BART, District Organizer, and read as follows:

"Dear Mr. BART:

"According to our records, you are circulating United Nations Signature Blanks #10412. Through the medium of this blank and with your aid, we are looking forward to accumulating 5 million individual signers who support our Petition to the United Nations presented to that body by officers of the National Negro Congress on June 6, 1946.

"We have set a time limit on this phase of the campaign and for that reason, we are asking that you adhere to the following suggestions:

"1. That you submit a weekly report to this office of all signed petitions you have collected to date.

"2. That this report be accompanied by check or money order representing contributions collected to date.

"3. That you give a short resume of the activities you have carried out in your community to bring the Petition to the attention of the American public.

"Just to give you a little idea of the response of the people to our signature campaign, we are enclosing a very partial report.

Sincerely yours,

/s/DOROTHY K. FUNN

DOROTHY K. FUNN, Director
UN Petition Campaign"

b7D
b2

On October 9, 1946, [redacted] a letter from the National Negro Congress, National Office, 307 Lennox Avenue, New York, 27, New York, dated September 27, 1946, and addressed to PHIL BART. The text of the letter read that the National Negro Congress was anxious to get back all the United Nations Signature Petitions which were still outstanding so that they could intensify their campaign for five million signatures by October 23, when the General Assembly of the United Nations was to meet in New York. It was stated that at that time they intended to present further substantiating evidence on the oppression of the Negro people in America. The letter was signed by CELIA FORMAN, UN Petition Campaign.

ACTIVITIES OF THE LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

b2
b7D,C

On July 23, 1946, [redacted] was interviewed by Special Agent [redacted], who furnished the following information concerning the reorganization of the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Negro Congress:

The informant advised that CONCHITA PORTER, Secretary of U.P.A.C., LESTER CLAYBOURNE, Local #155, U.E.R.M.W.A., and THOMAS NABRIED of Communist Party Headquarters, Philadelphia, were delegates from this city to the National Negro Convention held in Detroit May 30 to June 2, 1946.

He informed that ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET had been instructed to head the reorganization of the National Negro Congress in Philadelphia and that secret meetings were held at the U.P.A.C. Center with FAUSET, CONCHITA PORTER, LESTER CLAYBOURNE, THOMAS NABRIED, and WILLIAM RIDGEWAY of the Postal Alliance present. As a result of these meetings, a temporary committee was formed, at which time LESTER CLAYBOURNE was elected Chairman; CONCHITA PORTER, Treasurer; and WILLIAM RIDGEWAY, Secretary.

The informant contacted WILLIAM RIDGEWAY with regard to the activities of the new organization, and he advised him that the temporary offices would be located at the U.P.A.C. Center, 2307 North Broad Street, and that the regular meetings would be held and that the National Negro Congress would ultimately be the "big organization" in Philadelphia.

The informant further reported that on July 10, 1946, EDWARD STRONG, 261 New York Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, Executive of the National Headquarters of the National Negro Congress, met with TOM NABRIED, BILL DAVIS, CONCHITA PORTER, and ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET to discuss plans relative to the establishment of a new Philadelphia Chapter of the National Negro Congress. As a result of this meeting, it was agreed that U.P.A.C. would restrict its activities to political action and that letters would be sent out immediately to key individuals, informing them of the plan to establish a Philadelphia Chapter of the National Negro Congress. It was agreed that CONCHITA PORTER and TOM NABRIED would contact individuals in the labor movement sympathetic to the Negro cause in order to get their backing for this new organization.

On July 30, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that the United Peoples Action Committee, 2307 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, under the leadership of ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET, would start a special membership drive to establish the local chapter of the National Negro Congress at Philadelphia. According to the informant, the National Office of the National Negro Congress had set a figure of 100,000 members to be recruited by May 30, 1947. A WILLIAM DAVIS was listed as being in charge of the membership drive in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New York. b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] EVELYN LAMBERT of the International Workers Order Office [redacted] was elected to be representative of the Philadelphia National Negro Congress at the American Crusade to End Lynching, scheduled to be held on September 23, 1946, at Washington, D. C. Miss LAMBERT informed LAUREN TAYLOR of the American Youth for Democracy that she would be the only representative to the Crusade from the National Negro Congress. She also indicated that the present membership of the Congress in Philadelphia now totaled approximately forty persons. b2

On September 13, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] furnished this office with the organization plan setup for the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Negro Congress. This program read as follows: b7D

"Organization Plan for Philadelphia National Negro Congress

"Purpose of organization - To Build an organization which can effectively express and realize the economic, political and social demands of the 250,000 or more Philadelphia Negroes.

"I. Initial Organizational Plan

A. Organizing Corp - An organizing corp will be built consisting of 40 to 50 people who can devote themselves to the work of setting up the Chapter.

1. Leadership in the group will be temporary pending completion of the organization of the Chapter.

2. All Philadelphia convention delegates should be part of and form base for Organizing Corp.

B. Membership campaign - It is proposed that a quota of 1500 N.N.C. members be set. Quota to be filled by Oct. 1st.

1. Area concentration for initial drive will be North Philadelphia because of its large (90,000) Negro population. This concentration is most graphically seen when broken down by wards.

Ward	Percent of Negro Population
13th	30%
14th	55%
20th	60%
28th	35%
29th	25%
32nd	52%
47th	90%

2. The emphasis in recruiting will be on obtaining members from trade unions. Special attention will be given to those unions which have members living in the North Philadelphia area. Our perspective will be to recruit union members who can in turn carry on our membership campaign within their respective union. Concentration will be on the following unions:

PH FILE 100-869

"U.E.
F.T.A.
Laundry Workers
N.M.U.
T.W.U.
I.L.A.
Hodcarriers Union

3. Civic and Church organizations in the area will be concentrated on for membership. Special attention will be given to groups prepared to join the N.N.C. as a body (e.g. Civil Rights Committee 15th Ward, Tenants League.)

4. Quota breakdown - The membership drive will begin July 26th with an open air meeting and continue through Oct. 1. The quota for specific periods during the drive is as follows:

July 27th - Aug. 15th	300
Aug. 15th - Sept. 15th	700
Sept. 15th - Oct. 1	500

C. Issues in initial campaign

1. Because of the current effort of big business to lower the living standards of all the American people through inflationary measures the immediate campaign should be directed against the rise of prices and rents.

a. Methods

1. Support of City Council Ordinance freezing rents as of June 30th.

2. Setting up of 'Price Patrol' unit and an information center on price rises.

3. Picketing of stores and landlords raising prices and rents.

4. Immediate joint action with groups (e.g. Tenants League, City CIO) fighting inflation including letters and petitions to local, state and national officials.

"2. United Nations Petition Campaign - The N.N.C. petition to the UN on oppression of the American Negro will be supported through circulation of the UN. petition for signature. Support will be given to the organization of Peoples Tribunals for further testimony on Negro oppression and the campaign to unseat Senator BILBO.

D. Finances - The raising of Funds will be a reflection of good organizational work.

1. Methods

a. Membership - (50¢ of fee goes to local N.N.C. Chapter)
b. Circulation of UN. petition
c. Sale of literature and buttons
d. Special fund raising through raffles, social affairs, donations, etc.

2. Our perspective will be to raise sufficient funds to support at least one and if possible two full-time workers.

3. Pledge - In our financial drives attention will be given to the Penna. Convention Pledge to raise $5,000 for N.N.C. by next convention.

II. Long-term Organizational Plan - Because of the distinct regional separation of Philadelphia the long-term plan after completion of the N. Phila. drive will be to organize the Phila. N.N.C. along the regional pattern with separate branches in N. Phila. S. Phila. and W. Phila. coordinated by a central office operating on the City level. Long-term program will be program adopted at N.N.C. Convention interpreted in terms of local situations."

On October 4, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] disclosed b7D that the local chapter of the National Negro Congress would establish their headquarters at the U.P.A.C. Center, 2307 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Informant advised that ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET was endeavoring to obtain the services of an active individual to promote the activities of the Congress publicly while FAUSET directs their activities under cover. Previous to this time CONCHITA PORTER, Secretary of U.P.A.C., was directing the activities of the National Negro Congress; but her activities were terminated when she moved to Detroit, Michigan.

PH FILE 100-869

On October 28, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that RAYMOND F. PRYOR had been elected Temporary Chairman of the National Negro Congress at Philadelphia for six months, during which time the other officers of this chapter would be THOMAS NABRIED, Vice-Chairman, and WILLIAM RIDGEWAY, Executive Secretary. b7D

The informant advised that the Philadelphia Chapter, in line with recent policies adopted by the National Office, had agreed to accept individual memberships and plans to inaugurate a membership drive, pointing out that the former policy of the National Negro Congress was only to accept as members persons who were affiliated with trade unions or other similar organizations. He advised that the Philadelphia chapter would investigate discriminatory practices exercised against Negroes relative to the integration of Negroes in the field of employment in public utilities such as the Bell Telephone Company and the Philadelphia Electric Company. At the present time the Congress is attempting to have Negroes who can pass for white apply for positions at the Bell Telephone Company and then have Negroes who can be identified as such apply in order to ascertain information concerning the employment policies of the Bell Telephone Company.

b7D

[redacted] has advised this office that the local chapter of the National Negro Congress was endeavoring to obtain a well-known individual to appear at Philadelphia in order to launch a campaign to establish the National Negro Congress as a leading organization in the Philadelphia area. In this regard, [redacted] contact was made with New York City to arrange an appointment with ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, VITO MARCANTONIO, and possibly HENRY WALLACE concerning bringing them down to Philadelphia to speak at the anti-lynch rally to be sponsored by the National Negro Congress. [redacted]

On November 12, 1946, [redacted] advised that the local office had informed HERBERT OPPENHEIMER to discontinue any further efforts to obtain a speaker for them because they had decided to call off their rally in favor of the N.A.A.C.P. rally.

b7D

On December 18, 1946, [redacted] reported to this office that RAYMOND PRYOR, Chairman of the local chapter of the National Negro Congress, was becoming dissatisfied with the interest being shown by the local members. He pointed out that the same four or five individuals attended every meeting and that he was putting out his own money in propaganda and that they were not getting any tangible results to show for it. He added that the New York Office was not giving them any help and that all they do is ask for money, which the local office does not have.

b7D

On December 14, 1946, [redacted] information to the effect that the local chapter of the National Negro Congress would cooperate with the newly formed organization, namely the Civil Rights Congress. The Civil Rights Congress is known to be controlled by members of the Communist Party at Philadelphia. [redacted] advised [redacted] that the Civil Rights Congress intends to become the coordinating body in the field of civil liberties of Negroes and will assist the National Negro Congress in handling cases.

b7D

[redacted]

TOM NABRIED and RAYMOND PRYOR were concerned over the membership drive of the local chapter of the National Negro Congress; and it was agreed that in order to impress prospective members, that the membership of the local chapter would be listed as from 700 to 1000 in spite of the fact that they actually have only 40 members. NABRIED indicated [redacted] the National Negro Congress was conducting a campaign in order to put Negro clerks and gas readers in the Philadelphia Gas Company and to also obtain positions for Negroes with the Bell Telephone Company.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

A copy of this report is being forwarded to the Washington Field Division in view of the fact that this organization is of interest to that office.

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

A copy of this report is being forwarded to the Detroit Field Division in view of the fact that this organization is of interest to that office.

PHILADELPHIA FIELD DIVISION

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Will continue the report on the local chapter of the National Negro Congress at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

PH FILE 100-869

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] HENRY BROGDEN, Negro investigator for the Army Quartermaster Depot.

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

FILE NO. 100-896

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	3/3/47	2/21/47	[redacted] SA EWJ

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] of San Diego has been elected chairman of the San Diego County CP. CP urged San Diego NNC to agitate against San Diego Street Railway Company for its refusal to hire colored operators. (U)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND PERSONNEL ... Classification 2/4/79 SP-1 1155

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] at San Diego dated 12/5/46. (U) b7c

CONF. INFT.

DETAILS: [redacted] (C) b1

On December 3, 1946, the edition of "Peoples World" contained an article stating that JOHN T. WILLIAMS as chairman and WILLIAM H. HERRON as president of the South Bay Branch of the NNC in San Diego signed a letter to the PW quoting a letter sent to the Mayor and City Council of National City by the NNC opposing the current proposed sales tax amendment. (U)

CONFIDENTIAL

EXTENDED BY SP-1 1155 6/11/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION 2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 6/11/89

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: N. G. Murphy, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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SD 100-896 CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

(b) 1 (D)

On December 12, 1947, [redacted] stated that in conjunction with the proposed stimulation of action in the Logan Heights to date was nothing more than a name organization run by the CP with a few influential outside people who are necessary if it becomes a powerful organization. (b) 1 (D)

[redacted] (b) 1 (C)

- PENDING -

CONFIDENTIAL

SD 100-896

CONFIDENTIAL

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

SAN DIEGO FIELD DIVISION

At San Diego, California,

Will follow and report Subject's activities [redacted]

b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 15 1947

TELETYPE

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DIRECTOR URGENT

G.I.R. 3

(1)

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, IS C. REMYTEL MARCH TWELVE, FORTYSEVEN CAPTIONED [redacted] TO HOLD MOBILIZATION IN HARLEM MARCH FIFTEEN AND CONFERENCE ON MARCH TWENTYTHIRD, TEN AM, TOM MOONEY HALL, THIRTEEN ASTOR PLACE, NYC. [redacted] ADVISED CIRCULARS TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN HARLEM ON MARCH FIFTEEN. MOBILIZATION AND CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY "GREATER NEW YORK TRADE UNION COUNCIL OF NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS" CONSISTING OF CHAIRMAN DON SMITH, PACKING HOUSE WORKERS, VICE CHAIRMAN JOHN GODMAN, INTERNATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT, BUILDING SERVICE EMPLOYEES, AFL, ELEANOR GODDING, PRESIDENT, LOCAL ONE, UPW, CIO, SECRETARY CHARLES A. COLLINS, VICE-PRESIDENT HOTEL AND CLUB EMPLOYEES UNION, AFL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REVELS CAYTON, NNC. PANEL DISCUSSIONS ON "THE ENEMIES OF LABOR WANT TO DESTROY THE WAGNER ACT, OUTLAW THE CLOSED SHOP, FORBID INDUSTRY WIDE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, RESTORE THE USE OF THE INJUNCTION AGAINST LABOR." NNC TO HOLD ON MARCH TWENTYTHIRD AT THREE PM CLASS "NEGRO TRADE UNIONISTS RALLY" AT GOLDEN GATE BALLROOM IN HARLEM. SPEAKERS, CHARLES COLLINS, DON SMITH, CONGRESSMAN A. C. POWELL, VITO MARCANTONIO, BENJAMIN DAVIS AND JAMES E. ALLEN.

RECORDED & INDEXED 61-6728-30

APR 15 1947 109 SCHEIDT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/4/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RA

cc: Mr Ladd

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 24 1947

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WASH FROM NEW YORK 19 24 6-17 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

[redacted] b7D

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, ISC. [redacted] ADVISED CONCERNING "NEGRO TRADE UNION RALLY TO STOP THE LYNCHING OF LABOR" HELD MARCH TWENTY THREE, FORTY SEVEN AT GOLDEN GATE BALLROOM, HARLEM, NYC, UNDER AUSPICES OF " GREATER NEW YORK LABOR COUNCIL-NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS." APPROXIMATELY TWO THOUSAND PERSONS PREDOMINANTLY NEGRO ATTENDED, ALL SPEAKERS BEING COLORED. CHARLES COLLINS, SECRETARY OF GREATER NEW YORK TRADE UNION COUNCIL ACTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING. BANJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF THE CP., WAS MAIN SPEAKER IN VITRIOLIC SPEECH ATTACKING US GOVERNMENT AS SIMILAR TO HITLER REGIME. HE SAID " NOT ONLY ARE WE GOING TO CORRECT THE UNDEMOCRATIC METHODS OF THE PRESENT US GOVERNMENT BUT WE ARE GOING TO GO FARTHER AND ESTABLISH A SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT IN THIS COUNTRY." REVEREND BANJAMIN J. RICHARDSON, RELIGIOUS COLUMNIST FOR THE PEOPLES VOICE" CP CONTROLLED NEGRO NEWSPAPER, DENOUNCED CONGRESSMAN ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR. WHO HAD BEEN SCHEDULED AS SPEAKER BUT FAILED TO APPEAR. REFERRING TO POWELL HE WARNED THE AUDIENCE "TO BEWARE OF THE RATS WITH WHOM THEY HAD TO ASSOCIATE". RICHARDSON SAID" I HAVE THE GUTS TO SAY WHAT OTHERS ARE AFRAID TO SAY." WALTER GARLAND, OFFICIAL OF THE UNITED NEGRO AND ALLIED VETERANS OF AMERICA, SPOKE CALLING FOR A

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UNITED EFFORT TO BUILD THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. REVELS CAYTON, NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE NNC, WAS IN CHARGE OF THE MEETING. LABOR DELEGATES FROM A NUMBER OF STATES ATTENDED AMONG WHO WAS MIRANDA SMITH FROM WINSTON SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA, CAMEL CIGARETT FACTORY. SHE SPOKE GIVING VIEWPOINT OF SOUTHERN NEGRO TRADE UNIONIST IN OPPOSING PRESENT LABOR POLICY. A RESOLUTION WAS PASSED AT MEETING TO SEND TELEGRAM TO SECRETARY OF LABOR LEWIS SCHWELLENBACH URGING HIM TO CEASE PERSECUTING THE CP. JAMES E. ALLEN OF THE NAACP SPOKE DEFENDING THE RIGHT TO EXISTENCE OF THE CP AND STATING NAACP WOULD ASSIST COMMUNISTS IN THEIR FIGHT. [redacted] STATED MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY A LARGE ACTIVE COMMUNIST GROUP.

670

SCHEIDT

HOLD

cc: Mr. Ladd

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle
Criminal Division

March 29, 1947

Director, FBI

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INDEXED

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Declassified by SP-1 GSK/LH 6/11/76

I wish to advise that the National Negro Congress, together with the Greater New York Labor Council, held a "Negro Trade Union Rally to Stop the Lynching of Labor" at the Golden Gate Ballroom, Harlem, New York City. It is reported that approximately 2000 people, predominantly Negroes, were in attendance.

Revels Cayton, the National Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress, was reported to have been in charge of the meeting, while Charles Collins, Secretary of the Greater New York Trade Union Council, acted as Chairman. Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., a member of the National Board of the Communist Party, was the main speaker of the evening. According to a reliable source he made a very vitriolic speech attacking the United States Government as being similar to the Hitler regime. He said, "not only are we going to correct the undemocratic methods of the present United States Government but we are going to go further and establish a Socialist Government in this country." Reverend Benjamin J. Richardson, religious columnist for the "Peoples Voice," a Communist controlled Negro newspaper, denounced Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., who had been scheduled as a speaker but failed to appear. Referring to Powell he warned the audience "to beware of the rats with whom they had to associate." Richardson said, "I have the guts to say what others are afraid to say." Walter Garland, an official of the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America, also spoke. He called for the uniting of all effort to build the National Negro Congress.

Labor delegates from a number of states reportedly attended, among whom was Miranda Smith, from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Camel Cigarette Factory. She spoke giving the viewpoint of the Southern Negro Unionists in opposing the present labor policy.

A resolution was passed at the meeting to send a telegram to the Secretary of Labor, Lewis Schwellenbach, urging him to cease persecuting the Communist Party. James Allen also spoke, defending the right to existence of the Communist Party and stating that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People would assist Communists in their fight. According to a reliable source in attendance at the meeting a large active Communist group was present.

A delegation of Negro Trade Unionists and other pro-labor representatives was planned to visit Washington, D. C. to lobby for the defeat of anti-labor legislation. The present foreign policy of the United States, the conference

Nelson
Gurnea
Glavin
Leo
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Harbo
Mandon
Pennington
Mohr
Tolson
Clayton
Tamm
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JJC:MJP

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AND INDIVIDUALS NOTIFIED
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DATE 9/6/79 SP-1/FSS

noted, as set forth by President Truman and Senator Vandenberg, "strives to turn the entire world into one huge Mississippi plantation under the domination of Standard Oil and contains the seeds of destruction for labor, the Negro people and our entire country." They also voted to place the petition of the National Negro Congress before the World Federation of Trade Unionists for consideration and action, to send a delegation of Negro Unionists to present the facts of American Negro oppression to the nations of Europe, and endorse the activities of the May Day Committee.

"We must collaborate with and give leadership to all these groups, but we must stress that we have a differentiated approach to each. We must give assistance to inclusive unity, but stress the importance especially of building and strengthening the National Negro Congress. This is so because the National Negro Congress is an organization which by its character and past role and tradition has been in the forefront in cementing ties between labor and the Negro people. Today its program of action for winning the rights of the Negro people is based on massed struggles and political action. It is an organization in which unity of Communist and nonCommunist is a fact. Therefore, since we recognize that the issues facing the Negro people and the nation today can only be won successfully through unified struggles, we stress the key role of the National Negro Congress." b1

[redacted] (c)

On May 23, 1946, an article appeared in the "St. Paul Pioneer Press" entitled, "Ramsey County CIO Wants State, City FEPC." This article reported that the Ramsey County Industrial Council voted to send a delegate to the national Negro Congress opening May 31 in Detroit.

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[redacted] b1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK — ST. PAUL — FILE NO. 100-852

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	3/31/47	2/14-18;3/5,10/47	[redacted] LKO

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: National Negro Congress not active or organized in Twin City area. All efforts to foster and promote National Negro Congress in this area initiated by local Communist Party. Attempts by Negro Communists to revive regular meetings of National Negro Congress at St. Paul last fall was met with negative results. WILLIAM HERRON, Negro labor leader [redacted] was delegated from Minnesota [redacted] national convention at Detroit last June. -RUC-

G.I.R.-1

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 30, 1946, at Detroit, Michigan

DETAILS:

[redacted] this newly appointed Negro Commission submitted a memorandum on February 21, 1946, addressed to all members of the Negro Department of the Communist Party, with the salutation: "Dear Comrades." A portion of this memorandum is being set forth in detail inasmuch as it reflects the attitude and policy of the local Communist Party in respect to the national Negro Congress:

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APR 2 1947

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[redacted] (d) b1

On June 14, 1946, an article appeared in the "Minneapolis Spokesman," a Negro weekly newspaper. This article reported that at a regular monthly meeting of the St. Paul Branch of the NAACP, BILL HERRON was scheduled to make a report on June 18 concerning the National Negro Congress convention which was held at Detroit, Michigan, convening on May 31, 1946. This newspaper item reported that HERRON was a member of the Executive Board of the local branch of the NAACP and served on an important Steering Committee of the Detroit conference.

The "Minneapolis Spokesman" also published a release on August 30, 1946, entitled, "National Negro Congress Branch Revived Here." This article was as follows:

"The St. Paul Branch of the National Negro Congress, revived after a period of inactivity due to the war, met last Friday evening, August 16, at 443 Rondo Avenue, the office of Local 516. Temporary officers of the branch have announced that the Congress will fight for full equality of citizenship for Negroes, for the Fair Employment Practice Commission, and for elimination of racial discrimination in employment. Locally the organization will unite with other organizations in fighting for better housing, a local FEPC, and for the issue of fair price controls. Nationally the Congress has launched a nationwide drive to fight the postwar wave of terror against Negro people. The St. Paul Branch will meet each Friday evening at Local 516 until further notice.

[redacted] b7D

was interviewed concerning the National Negro Congress. [redacted] According to [redacted] activities of the National Negro Congress in the Twin City area are practically negligible. [redacted] stated that he was not aware of any organizational activities and was quite positive that no regular meetings were being held by the National Negro Congress. According to [redacted] the largest, most influential, and active Negro organization in this area is the Urban League. [redacted] was aware of the fact that certain attempts had been made to activate the NNC in this area, and he believed that all attempts to do so had probably been instigated by local Communist influence. [redacted] said that in the event the NNC was of any consequence in this particular area, he felt that he would be aware of this fact.

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[redacted] Minnesota, was also interviewed regarding the National Negro Congress. [redacted] b7D According [redacted] the National Negro Congress was not an organized club at that time; however, a large organized Negro club did exist in Minneapolis at that time, but he could not recall the exact name of the organization. [redacted]

[redacted] stated that he was aware of the fact that [redacted] HERRON was an active Communist and that he had been sent to the national convention by the Communist Party in 1938.

[redacted] reported that to his knowledge there was no revival of meetings of the NNC in this area nor was there any organized activity in the Twin City area of the National Negro Congress at the present time.

[redacted] that if any meetings had been held at Local 516 headquarters, he would be fully aware of the fact, but that to his knowledge no such meetings had been held. [redacted] pointed out that he was aware of the fact that attempts had been made to reorganize the local NNC, and it was his opinion that most of these attempts had been initiated by WILLIAM HERRON. [redacted] reported that HERRON was extremely unpopular among the Negro element in the Twin City area, principally in view of HERRON'S known and admitted Communist activities. b7D

In view of HERRON'S limited following among the colored folks in this locality, [redacted] believed all attempts by him to reorganize the Congress had been in vain. He also pointed out that HERRON was quite seriously ill for the past several months, and this was probably the reason for HERRON'S inactivity along these lines at the present time.

[redacted] assured the writer that if the NNC was influential and active in the Twin City area, he would be aware of this fact. b7D

[redacted] Minnesota, reported that formerly there was a Negro organization in Minneapolis which had sent several delegates to the National Negro Congress convention, but that during the war

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and since the war he knew of no activity among colored people in respect to the NNC. [redacted] stated that he heard that four or five Negroes got together several months ago in an attempt to organize the NNC in St. Paul, but failed to do so. b7D

[redacted] Minnesota, [redacted] who is very active in Negro civic affairs in St. Paul, advised that he was not aware of any organized activity of the National Negro Congress locally. [redacted] acquainted with BILL HERRON and other local leading Negro Communists and stated that he believed there had been some attempt by certain Negro Communists several months ago to organize the Negro Congress; however, there was no indication that they had been able to do so.

b7D

[redacted], advised that no meetings were being held by the NNC at the headquarters of Local 516. [redacted] was acquainted with the fact that regular meetings were being held by the AYD, but he was absolutely certain that no regular meetings were being held by the National Negro Congress.

[redacted] and [redacted] were unable to furnish any information regarding the National Negro Congress.

b7D
b2

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

CONFIDENTIAL

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 1, 1947

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE [redacted]
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b2
b7D

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to your letter dated February 10, 1947.

Efforts on the part of this organization to reorganize in Philadelphia have not materialized. The organization claims a membership from 700 to 1000, but actually they number only 40. In view of the limited activity of this group, it is not anticipated that the technical surveillance on this organization, which was temporarily discontinued by this office on December 30, 1946, will be reinstalled.

G. I. R. -4

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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61-6728-603 pp 2+3

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SAC, New York

April 9, 1947

Director, FBI

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

61-6728-603

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There is being submitted herewith a photostatic copy of a memorandum dated March 16, 1947, concerning a conference of the Cultural Division of the above-captioned organization, which was held in New York City.

This memorandum was furnished to the Bureau by an unknown outside source and if the information is utilized it should be appropriately paraphrased.

Enclosure

HOB:ECR

G.I.R. 5

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Glavin
Nichols
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Coyne
Gurnea
Harbo
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Lavington
Quinn Tamm
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 100-739

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI	4-23-47	2/18;3/11,12,15, 17,19/47	[redacted] b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Local chapter of NNC organized 8-23-46 under CP sponsorship. [redacted] b7C. Majority of committee chairmen and newly appointed legislative representative are Party members. Chapter's policies are dictated and controlled by CP Missouri state headquarters. Membership estimated at approximately 100 persons and greater majority are colored. Financially very weak. Activities have included public mass meetings such as the organizational affair on 8-23-46, protestations of discrimination on 9-25-46 and 11-7-46, segregation theater pickets on 11-17-46 and 1-24-47, a rally at the Mo. state legislature on 1-8-47 to support newly elected negro legislators and a joint meeting on 2-12-47 with local chapter of the Civil Rights Congress.

- P* -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 8-30-46 at Detroit. b7C

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DETAILS: AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

The data herein contained is a summary of the highlights of the voluminous information which has been furnished consistently

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to this office by several informants as well as reliable sources of information.

Name and Address

The local chapter of the National Negro Congress maintains its office in Room 317, People's Finance Building, 11 North Jefferson, which is a thickly populated Negro area. The official in charge of this office is Mrs. PAULINE MURPHY.

Officers

Committee Chairmen

This organization, which is also known as the St. Louis Council of the NNC, has as its officers the following:

H. D. ROBINSON, Sr. - President
PAULINE MURPHY - Executive Secretary
Mrs. OLLIE BUSH - Treasurer
Dr. W. C. BRIDGES - Finance Chairman
JAMES GARR - Membership Chairman
JAMES GAN - Labor Chairman
TOM GATES - Publicity Chairman
Rev. OWEN H. WHITFIELD - Regional NNC Organizer
ANN YASGUR - Legislative Representative
WILLIAM SENTNER - Labor Adviser

Members of NNC National Board

The individuals from this area who are members of the National Board of the NNC are CHARLES ANDERSON, a teacher, and JOSEPH SQUIRES, an organizer for the UERMWA, CIO.

NNC Board

The members of the local board of the chapter are as follows:

HERMAN WEBB
J. CLAYBOURNE BUSH
CHARLES ANDERSON
PAULINE MURPHY
Dr. W. C. BRIDGES

General Membership

The general membership of this organization is composed generally of colored persons. [redacted] has disclosed the

fact that [redacted] that the entire membership of the local chapter is approximately one hundred persons. The vast majority of these individuals are not active in the chapter and cannot be counted on to aid in committee work. They are utilized to attend the general mass meetings sponsored by the organization.

Chapter Policies

[redacted] associated with [redacted] b7D prominent members of this organization, has stated consistently that the chapter policies are dictated and controlled by CP Missouri State Headquarters. The chapter is relatively new in St. Louis but there is no doubt it is following a line dictated generally by RALPH SHAW, CP Missouri State Chairman.

The chapter is known to have followed the party's general policy to foment comment utilizing incidents of discrimination against Negroes. It has also fallen in line and is supporting an FEPC bill which has been introduced into the Missouri state legislature by two members of the legislature including WILLIAM MASSINGALE, [redacted] b7C

[redacted] before any action is taken by the local chapter on any subject someone from CP Missouri State Headquarters is consulted and the action of the NNC will be discussed in detail and formulated for the group.

PAULINE MURPHY is known [redacted] to communicate almost b7D daily with some Party functionary and the office of the NNC is known as a hang out for Party members.

It is known [redacted] that whenever the CP of Missouri needs someone or organization to front for it, they have utilized the local chapter of the NNC.

An excellent example occurred in connection with the death of WILLIE HOWARD, a Negro veteran of World War II. HOWARD died as the result of gunshot wounds at the hands of an officer of the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department. In order to bring the matter to the attention of the public the CP of Missouri arranged for the National Negro Congress to organize a group known as the Committee for William Howard. As RALPH SHAW stated, the sole purpose of this new group was to hold a mass meeting on September 23, 1946 at the Fairfax Baptist Church. There is no doubt that this activity aided to a certain extent in securing an investigation by the FBI of the facts surrounding the death of WILLIAM HOWARD.

SL 100-739

Early Stages
Phase I

The idea to rejuvenate the chapter of the National Negro Congress in this area appears to have had its origin in the CP Missouri State Headquarters. Information consistently furnished [redacted] confirms this conclusion. Such activity in connection with the organization is estimated to have commenced about May 15, 1946 with the selection of a delegation of approximately twenty-three persons who are known to have attended the Tenth Annual National Negro Congress Convention which was held at Detroit, Michigan, May 30 through June 2, 1946. The individuals who are known to have attended the convention are as follows: b7D

LEONA CHAZEN - [redacted]
SUE WOLVERSON
RAY WOLVERSON
JOSEPH SQUIRES
NATHAN OSER -
TOM GATES - a
HELEN MUSIL -
BOBBIE SQUIRES
LAVERNE SCHMIDT
CHARLES ANDERSON
CHARLES GILMORE -
DENNY PINES -

b7C

The information that these individuals attended as delegates was received from [redacted] So far it has been confirmed that LEONA CHAZEN, SUE and RAY WOLVERSON, CHARLES ANDERSON and JOSEPH SQUIRES attended. It is believed that the [redacted] information is correct. b7D

At the Convention CHARLES ANDERSON and JOSEPH SQUIRES were selected as members of the NNC National Board.

On return of the delegation to St. Louis it is known [redacted] that they made reports to their respective clubs concerning attendance at the meeting. This is specifically confirmed [redacted] b7D

Phase II

[redacted] b7D

SL 100-739

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] the national office of the National Negro Congress has instructed that each chapter gather evidences of discrimination against the Negroes existing in their respective localities. b7D These items of discrimination are to be presented in a formal report by the NNC to the United Nations. [redacted] arrangements were made for items of this nature to be gathered in the local area.

In connection with this program regarding discrimination the Communist Party outlined a signature mobilization in order to collect signatures on a petition to be presented to the United Nations by the National Negro Congress. All Communist groups in this area participated in the mobilization and booths were maintained at various corners in the St. Louis area. These booths were manned uniformly by members of the Communist Party and the instructions as to personnel to man the booth and time of day were issued in detail by CP Missouri State Headquarters.

[redacted] During the afternoon session [redacted] Section Organizer, spoke on the Negro problem. He stated with regard to the local chapter of the National Negro Congress that the Communist Party must lead the NNC and should not turn its problems over to NNC.

b7D

[redacted]

SL 100-739

[redacted]

670

Georgia Lynchings Protest Meeting

This mass demonstration under Party leadership was held on August 4, 1946 at the Fairfax Baptist Church, Vandeventer and Cook, with the alleged purpose as a protest of the lynching of four negroes at Monroe, Georgia. The sponsorship of the meeting was indicated as the St. Louis Committee for FEPO, a known CP front, the American Youth for Democracy and the Communist Party in St. Louis. The chairman of the meeting was Dr. W. C. BRIDGES, [redacted] Speakers included NATHAN OSER, CHARLES ANDERSON, ELLIOTT WAXMAN, [redacted] and WILLIAM MASSINGALE. The meeting can be easily classed as a success insofar as the Party is concerned.

The conclusion of the second phase of this organization is more or less summarized by the report of the organizing committee. It reflects that on August 1, 1946 the organizing committee of the St. Louis Council of the National Negro Congress met to map out a program. This program followed the conclusions of the National NNC Convention, namely to support the petition to the United Nations on behalf of 13,000,000 Negroes and to ask the UN to speak out against discrimination and oppression of the American Negro. The organizing committee followed through by securing more than 4,000 signatures to the petition and has secured specific instances of local discrimination, all of which will be presented to the United Nations.

On August 23, 1946 the St. Louis Chapter will hold its initial organizational membership meeting at the Pine Street YMCA. The principal speaker selected was REVELS CAYTON, the Executive Secretary of the national body.

The members of the organizing committee were identified as: H. D. ROBINSON, NATHAN OSER, J. STANNARD, HELEN MUSII [redacted]

SL 100-739

Phase III

The formal organizational meeting was combined with a meeting on August 25, which was attended by approximately 150 people. The August 23, meeting was not so well attended. [redacted], HERMAN WEBB, [redacted] was elected president and PAULINE MURPHY was selected as the Executive Secretary. b7D

The principal address by REVELS CAYTON was given at the August 25 meeting and he handled the national picture while OSER spoke on the share-cropping conditions in Missouri.

Handbills advertising the meeting and formal notices of the meeting, as well as newspaper clippings concerning what transpired are maintained in the St. Louis Division file.

[redacted] b7D

Activities

The first program adopted by the new chapter was to fasten itself on the case of WILLIAM HOWARD. AL MURPHY was selected as the individual to contact the HOWARD family and obtain permission to represent them. This permission was given [redacted] b7D

This protest meeting was held on September 23, in conjunction with the National Negro Congress's drive to send a mass delegation to Washington, D. C. on September 23, 1946 to protest an alleged lynching wave which is supposed to be sweeping the United States. So far as is known, no St. Louis delegates attended the demonstrations in Washington, D. C. They considered the local protest meeting as their contribution in the national effort.

The Communist Party cooperated in this effort and the speakers included the Reverend OWEN WHITFIELD [redacted] WILLIAM SENTNER, [redacted] b7C

and the Reverend CHARLES WILSON, minister of the Grace Episcopal Church, [redacted]

A second protest mass meeting was sponsored by the local chapter on November 7, 1946 in the Phyllis Wheatly Branch of the YWCA, 2707 Locust Street. FANNIE COOK, [redacted] Dr. W. C. BRIDGES, who served as chairman; WILLIAM MASSINGALE and OWEN WHITFIELD spoke on the program. The object of the meeting was to obtain intervention by the federal government in order to develop completely the facts concerning the death of WILLIAM HOWARD.

The original letters concerning the calling of this meeting and the newspaper press accounts are maintained in the St. Louis Field Division files.

Another program adopted by the local chapter was a protestation against the segregation policy followed uniformly by the local movie houses and legitimate theater.

On November 17, 1946 the chapter sponsored a picket at the American Theater at the performance of "Carmen Jones" which was billed as an all Negro cast. The supporting organizations were the Citizens Council for Democracy and the American Youth for Democracy.

The show "Carmen Jones" was again picketed on November 27, and the newspaper accounts containing the names of persons in the picket line reflected a number of known Communists. The details are maintained in the St. Louis File.

When WALTER HUSTON appeared at the American Theater on January 24, 1947 the chapter combined with the Citizens Council for Democracy, the AYD, the Civil Rights Congress and the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and established a picket line. This picket was successful in obtaining a number of comments in the press. In coordination with this picket, PAUL ROBESON appeared in St. Louis and participated with the group in the picket line.

Missouri State Legislative Rally

In the November political elections in Missouri WILLIAM MASSINGALE was elected on the Democratic ticket to the Missouri state legislature. He resigned his position as chairman of the Frederick Douglass Club, East Side Section of the CP, and was presented by the Party generally as a known Communist.

[redacted] and other sources of information have advised this office that the Communist Party will utilize MASSINGALE in the Missouri state legislature to the fullest possible extent.

In order to support him and to insure that he obtain his seat in the legislature the CP arranged for the local chapter of the National Negro Congress to sponsor a delegation to attend the opening of the legislature on January 8, 1947 at Jefferson City, Missouri.

A rather large number of persons participated in the delegation and approximately 200 people attended the convened session held at Jefferson City with the principal speaker as Dean SCRUGGS of Lincoln University. The Interim Committee developed at the meeting is controlled completely by the CP. It is noted that the chairman of this session at Jefferson City was H. D. ROBINSON, a card holding member of the Professional Group.

The resolutions adopted were:

(a) For a Fair Employment Practices Law;
(b) For the elimination of the dual school system and to permit Negores and whites to attend school together;
(c) A resolution urging the end of discrimination and segregation in public places;
(d) A minimum wage law;
(e) Increased housing;
(f) A plea for day nurseries.

Lincoln--Douglass-Roosevelt Memorial Meeting

The tickets for admission to this meeting on February 12, 1947 reflected the principal speaker as LOUISE T. PATTERSON of Chicago, Illinois. The ticket reflects the meeting is under the auspices of the National Negro Congress and the Civil Rights Congress of St. Louis. The letter of invitation featured the "Martyr" JOHN ROSSEN, the American-Jew who fought in two foreign wars including the Spanish war of liberation, who was imprisoned because he dared to demonstrate against the KKK and the Fascist GERALD L. K. SMITH. This letter was over the signature of the National Negro Congress, the Citizens Council for Democracy and the St. Louis Anti-Poll Tax Committee.

The meeting was passably successful insofar as attendance was concerned. The collection was very poor due to the mishandling on the part of Mrs. W. C. BRIDGES, the wife of Dr. BRIDGES.

Miscellaneous

The local chapter continues to maintain its office in the People's Finance Building. Recently the St. Louis chapter of the Civil

Rights Congress completed an arrangement to share office space with the NNC. The Civil Rights Congress actually is the old Citizens Council for Democracy which was organized, controlled and dominated by the Communist Party.

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

Communist Affiliation

The original president of the St. Louis Council of the NNC was HERMAN WEBB. He was replaced by H. D. ROBINSON, Sr. who is the present president. [redacted]

HERMAN WEBB - [redacted]

H. D. ROBINSON, Sr. [redacted] b7C
PAULINE MURPHY - [redacted]

Dr. W. C. BRIDGES - [redacted]
JAMES GARR - 1947 [redacted]
Reverend OWEN H. WHITFIELD [redacted]
ANN YASGUR - 1946 [redacted]
CHARLES ANDERSON - [redacted]
JOSEPH SQUIRES - [redacted]
TOM GATES - 1947 [redacted]
WILLIAM SENTNER - [redacted]

There is no indication that the treasurer of this organization, OLLIE BUSH, is a Communist and there is no available information indicating she is a sympathizer or a fronter for the Party. This is also true of J. CLAYBOURNE BUSH. There is no indication that he is in any way affiliated with the Party although he is known to have been contacted by them on several occasions.

PENDING

SL 100-739

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

ST. LOUIS DIVISION

At St. Louis, Missouri will at the end of six months report any pertinent information concerning this organization and its officers.

NY 100-3633

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

New York

At New York, New York

Will follow and report the activities of the National Negro Congress in this area.

) (2-7-79)

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-3633 DRM

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	APR 25 1947	12/26,30/46; 1/10,28;2/6,10, 12,25;3/10,11/47.	[redacted] b2c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] b7D Officers of Manhattan Council of NNC obtained. Cultural Division and Labor Council of NNC formed. [redacted] Petitions being distributed by NNC for signatures to be submitted to the United Nations in support of NNC. REVELS CAYTON, National Executive Secretary NNC, reported to be laying plans to organize cab drivers in Harlem area for the Transport Workers Union working out of NNC office at 307 Lenox Ave., NYC. NNC sponsoring "Death Blow to Jim Crow" rally at Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem area on 3/23/47.

- P* -

REFERENCE:

Bureau file 61-6728.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7C
New York 1/16/47.

NC SEP 1947 71 STICS

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23107

NY 100-3633

b7D

On February 6, 1947 [redacted] advised that the Manhattan Council of the NNC is located in Room 204 at 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City. It is to be noted that this is the address of the National Office of the National Negro Congress.

The informant advised that the following are officers of the Manhattan Council:

EWART GUINIER, Chairman
JOSEPH BULLARD, Vice Chairman
DAISY GEORGE " "
JOHN GOODMAN " "
NAOMI CORNACKER " "
GILBERT SHERMAN " "
VICKI BEST, Executive Secretary
HALCIS MOOREHEAD, Recording Secretary
HOPE STEVENS, Treasurer
REV. J. N. C. DAVIS, Chaplain

b7D

[redacted] a copy of a letter written on the stationery of the Cultural Division of the NNC located at 45 Astor Place, Room 415, New York 3, New York, and listed as the officers of this division are the following:

VIRGINIA GERSON, Executive Secretary
PAUL ROBESON, Initiating Committee
CARL VAN DORAN, " "
MARGARET WEBSTER, " "

The letter which is dated January 22, 1947 states that the Cultural Division of the NNC is organized to examine the status of employment and use of talents of Negroes in the arts and to improve these conditions where prejudices exist. Along with this letter, [redacted] a questionnaire which was being sent out by the Cultural Division as an enclosure to this letter and requesting information concerning Negroes employed in the advertising field and the instances of job discrimination in this field. The questionnaire also requests the names and addresses of any individuals within the advertising field who might be sympathetic to the project of the of the Cultural Division and might be willing to help.

b7D

The PEOPLES VOICE, a Communist controlled Negro newspaper on January 11, 1947, carried an article entitled, "THEATRE FOLK SALUTE BETTY GARRETT AT NNC CULTURAL DIVISION PARTY". This article states in part that the Cultural Division of the NNC got under way in a big way on December 28, 1946, when they threw a farewell party for Miss GARRETT at the home of MADELINE LEE. Miss GARRETT had been starred in the head roll of the New York musical "CALL ME MISTER" and at this time was leaving for Hollywood to work in the movie industry. The article stated further that admission was charged to this party and the funds were to go to the newly formed Cultural Division of the Congress to aid them in their work. It was also stated that the Cultural Division of the Congress is headed by such outstanding people of the profession as PAUL ROBESON, MARGARET WEBSTER, CARL VAN DORAN, SAM WANAMAKER and GRACE MOORE.

It was also stated that the Cultural Division intended to rid each branch of the entertainment field of discrimination in its employment methods and to fight for a better and more sympathetic treatment of minority characterizations and for better job opportunities.

On February 8, 1947, the PEOPLES VOICE carried an article under the column, "WORKERS SAY" by MERCEDES REID, entitled, "A New Labor Council". This article stated that the NNC recently established a labor council of 500 trade unionists representing all branches of the labor movement in the country. CHARLES COLLINS, Vice President of the Hotel and Club Service Employees Union, Local 6, AFL, Secretary of this organization, outlined the program for the Council at its initial meeting in Detroit, Michigan, on January 23, 1947.

The following were listed as officers of the Council:

Chairman	FERDINAND C. SMITH of the NMU and a member of the CIO Executive Board
Regional Vice Chairman	RAYMOND TILLMAN, Transport Workers Union, South
" " "	LEONARD COWAN, National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards, West
" " "	EWART GUINIER, United Public Workers, New York
" " "	MARCEL SHERER, United Electric Workers, New Jersey
" " "	JAMES WALKER, United Automobile Workers, Detroit
" " "	SAM PARKS, United Power House Workers, Chicago
" " "	THOMAS RICHARDSON, United Public Workers, Washington

[redacted]

b7D, c

) (2-7-79)

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[redacted] December 26, 1946 advised that CONGRESS VIEW, a monthly magazine which had been published by the National Negro Congress, suspended publication about six or seven months previously due to the resignation of the editor of this magazine, GENE PASTOR, and the failure of the Congress to obtain a suitable replacement for her. [redacted] advised, however, that it was understood that CONGRESS VIEW would be back in publication during the early part of 1947 with a new editorial staff. b7D

On February 15, 1947 the NEW YORK AGE, a colored newspaper, carried an article which stated that representatives of several national and international organizations met the previous Saturday at 23 West 26th Street (Institute of International Democracy) to discuss drafting a petition supplementing the NNC petition to the United Nations.

On February 12, 1947, [redacted] supplied a copy of DEMOCRACY AND THE NEGRO PEOPLE, a paper which was put out by the IWO in connection with the Negro history week. This paper carried an article entitled, "AN APPEAL TO UN" by the National Negro Congress. This article stated in part that on June 6, 1946, at Hunter College in New York City, documents were presented by officers of the NNC to representatives of the United Nations describing the oppression of the Negroes of the United States and petitioning the United Nations in their behalf for the elimination of political, economic and social discrimination, etc., It stated that in submitting the case of the Negro people of America to the United Nations, the National Negro Congress was also appealling to the combined judgment of the entire world. b7D

On June 6, 1946, there also began a nation wide petition campaign for one million signatures to express the support of American people for action by the United Nations. These petitions are to be presented to the Commission On Union Rights of the Economic and Social Council when it next convenes.

On February 27, 1947, [redacted] a copy of the petition which is being distributed by the NNC for presentation to the United Nations. This petition is headed as follows: b7D

"a petition...
to the United Nations on behalf of
13 million oppressed Negro citizens of the
United States of America

"Mr. Trygve Lie, Secretary-General
United Nations
Lake Success, N. Y.

"We Americans respectfully join in support of the Petition of the National Negro Congress to the United Nations' Social and Economic Council submitted to that body on June 6, 1947, calling for an investigation into the plight of 13 million Negro citizens who are suffering from economic, social and political discrimination in the United States."

b7D

[redacted] of the NNC, has recently been conferring with representatives of the Transport Workers Union in an attempt to formulate plans for the organizing of the Harlem taxi cab drivers into the TWU. [redacted] advised that it is felt at the present time that the TWU will work along with the National Negro Congress through CAYTON on this matter, and that they will work out of the National Office of the NNC which is located b7D at 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City.

On January 18, 1947 the PEOPLES VOICE carried an article entitled, "F.M. Radio License Sought by NNC." As a result of unanimous approval to assist in the fight to obtain a frequency modulation (F.M.) station, representative of the population, regardless of race, color or creed, the National Negro Congress Executive Committee in the New York area endorsed the Peoples Radio Foundation, Inc. Revels Cayton, NNC Executive Secretary, made public a wire urging Chairman CHARLES DENNY, Federal Communications Commission in Washington to grant PFR license. The wire read, "NNC and its thousands of members join in requesting that Peoples Radio Foundation be granted an FM license. Present day radio perpetrates ideology of big business, and it is imperative that an FM station representative of the people on basis of equality, not determined by color or creed, voice their sentiments and combat forces repressing them." All NNC members and those who stand for the same principles are urged to send letters, wires and postcards to Mr. DENNY asking that the F.M. license be granted to the New York area.

On February 8, 1947 the PEOPLES VOICE carried an article entitled, "Post-War Story", which article appeared under the column "WORKERS SAY" by MERCEDES REID. This article stated in part that JOSEPH MARSHALL, JR., student at Goddard College in Vermont, is a volunteer worker in the Publicity Department of the Manhattan Council of the NNC. This work period is provided for by the college and paid for by the Congress for the further educational development of the student. The article stated that MARSHALL was a World War II veteran who had, while in the Army, recruited over six hundred

members for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and that when he returned from the Army, he returned to high school and helped establish the International Workers Order, Lodge 721 in Norwalk, Conn. working closely with RUDY GILLESPIE, organizer for the NNC, in building a chapter of the Congress in Norwalk during the past summer.

[redacted] This was a meeting of the committee of the NNC and was held for the purpose of discussing and planning a mass rally to be held at the Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem on March 23, 1947. The rally was to be entitled, "DEATH BLOW TO JIM CROW". [redacted] the theme of this meeting was to be as follows: 1. Keep out Bilbo, 2. Knock out Talmadge, 3. Organize the taxi workers in the Transport Workers Union and 4. Save jobs for Internal Revenue workers. [redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

On March 1, 1947 an article appeared in the NEW YORK AGE, a colored newspaper, concerning the aforementioned rally in which it was stated that the NNC in cooperation with the Manhattan Committee of the NNC and the New York Committee to Aid the Southern Youth Congress were sponsoring the rally which was to be held at the Golden Gate Ballroom on March 23, 1947. The article stated that a major question on the agenda for the rally is the legal discriminatory statutes of the state and federal government against Negroes, Mexicans, West Indians, Puerto Ricans and other minority groups in the United States and territories under the jurisdiction of the United States.

The NEW YORK AGE on February 3, 1947 carried an article entitled, "NND Blasts Unfair Labor Practices". The article stated in part that more than seven hundred Internal Revenue Department workers, union and community organization representatives, thronged Morris Avenue and 161 Street on January 29, 1947 to hear union officials, representatives of the NNC and other organizations protest the unfair labor policies that ERNEST H. CAMPBELL, administrator of the Bronx Office, has followed. It was stated that EWART GUINIER, Secretary-

Treasurer of the United Public Workers of America and President of the Manhattan Council of the NNC, denounced Mr. CAMPBELL's policy of employing clerical workers for six months at the lowest salary in the Federal Service. It was stated that UOPWA, the day before, had protested the firing of sixty Negro veterans by the Internal Revenue Office in the Bronx. It was stated that among the representatives of the NNC present at this meeting was Mrs. AUDLEY MOORE, Oranizational Director of the Manhattan Council of the NNC, who demanded the reinstatement of the sixty Negro veterans.

On February 2, 1947 the New York Amsterdam, a colored newspaper, carried an article concerning a march on Albany at which time a petition on behalf of New York City's "rent marchers" was dismissed by Supreme Court Justice Harry E. Schirick, Wednesday, following a parade in which legislative leaders banned everyone from the halls of the Legislature, except Mr. GUINIER (President of the Manhattan Council, NNC) and others carrying special admittance cards. The article went on to state that the march consisted of 1,000 persons and that Mr. GUINIER, through Attorney MORRIS ZUCKMAN, leader for the United Public Workers Union, CIO, had contended that the ban on the marchers was unconstitutional.

- P E N D I N G -

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE No. 100-3464

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
LOS ANGELES	4/24/47	12/17/46; 1/3, 2/3,7,10,27; 3/6,15,19,20, 24/47.	[redacted] 67C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

HENRY SAMUELS, Executive Secretary in Los Angeles, identified as from New York. C.P. continues to exercise control of Los Angeles Chapter with 17 known C.P. Members on Executive Board of 28. Activities consist of picketing SONG OF THE SOUTH, obtaining publicity regarding anti-lynching laws, recruiting of members, complaining of alleged police brutality, sponsoring mass meetings, etc.

117069

NO SEP 1947 71 STATISTICS

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/11/79 BY SP-1654

REFERENCE: Bureau File 61-6728.
Report of Special Agent [redacted]
New York City, 1/16/47.

67C

DETAILS:

LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS

67D

It was ascertained through [redacted] and from examination of certain literature put out by the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in Los Angeles that the Headquarters of the Los Angeles Chapter are now located at 1051 E. 41st Street Place. This address is also the address of the employment office of the CALIFORNIA EAGLE owned and operated by CHARLOTTE A. BASS who is also the President of the Los Angeles Chapter of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

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117070

PERSONAL

HELEN SAMUELS continues to be the Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles Chapter of the N.N.C. [redacted]

b7C

[redacted] it was determined that she is identical with [redacted] who formerly was active in the Communist Party in New York City.

This identification was confirmed on February 10th [redacted] observed SAMUELS in the picket line sponsored by the N.N.C. at the RKO Theater, 8th and Hill Street, where the N.N.C. was picketing DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH.

In the December 12, 1946 issue of the Los Angeles SENTINEL, Negro newspaper, there appeared a list of the members of the Executive Board of the Los Angeles Chapter of the N.N.C. which is shown as follows:

[redacted]

**	MRS. CHARLOTTE A. BASS	President
*	HELEN SAMUELS	Executive Secretary
	ARTHUR E. HARRISON	Vice President
*	ROBERT PATE	Vice President
	ADINA WILLIAMS	Recording Secretary
	ED PERL	Treasurer
	WILLIAM JACKSON	
*	YVONNE SHEPHERD	
*	LA RUE McCORMICK	
*	WILLIAM O'NEILL	
*	OLIVER BOUTTE	
**	AUGUSTUS HAWKINS	
*	ERNEST McBRIDE	
*	ELIZABETH FLETCHER	
*	JOHN DIAL	
*	JOHN HOWARD TAYLOR	
*	LUTHER A. HERDLIEFER	

46

LA 100-3464

117071

CARLTON MOSS
* PHILIP M. CONNELLY
CAL WALLACE
ROGER BOYD
* JOHN WEEDIN (This is believed to be a misprint and should be DON WEELDIN).
CORNELIAS CLERKE
REV. HAMILTON C. COSWELL
* ERNEST NIGHTINGALE
* VELOCITY CALLICOATTE
REV. J. J. HICKS
* PERTIS PERRY

COMMUNIST PARTY CONTROL

[redacted]

[redacted] reported that the local chapter had set up 3 committees composed of (1) the FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES COMMITTEE, (2) A POLICE BRUTALITY COMMITTEE and (3) a HOUSING COMMITTEE. The Los Angeles County Communist Party has pledged 200 members and a donation of $50.00 to the organization.

67D

[redacted]

117072

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted] on November 19, 1946 a joint meeting of the three clubs in the J[redacted] Section was held and that during this meeting [redacted] members, had made three proposals at a recent County C.P. meeting and that one of these three proposals was that the Communists should build a strong N.N.C. in this area and that those who did not want to work openly as Communists could do a good job with the CONGRESS.

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] a mimeographed letter was put out which was dated February 7, 1947 on the stationery of the Communist Party which mentioned that the Congress was conducting the picket line at the RKO Theater at 8th and Hill Street, protesting the showing of DISNEY's SONG OF THE SOUTH and this letter stated that the Communist Party was supporting the picket line.

A C T I V I T I E S

One of the principal activities of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS has been a picket line at the RKO Theater, 8th and Hill Streets, Los Angeles for the purpose of protesting against the showing of DISNEY's SONG OF THE SOUTH. This picket line has received considerable publicity in the CALIFORNIA EAGLE, Negro newspaper, owned and operated by CHARLOTTE ELLS, the Chairman of the local chapter of the N.N.C.

117074

Publicity concerning this picket line has appeared in the issues of that paper on January 16, 30, February 6 and 13th. In the issue of February 6th, there also appeared in addition to a news article regarding the picket line an editorial criticizing the picture for its alleged showing of the Negro as a "lazy, good natured young TOM." Also in the issue of February 13th, the news item reported that the ALLEN Theater at 126 E. Santa Barbara (position in a Negro neighborhood) had stated in a letter to the N.C.C. that they did not show the picture. The article further reported that the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS had been joined in its picket line at the RKO Theater by the United Negro and Allied Veterans of America.

On March 18, 1947 [redacted] furnished a mimeographed sheet announcing a dance to be held on March 8th under the sponsorship of the N.N.C. for the purpose of "honoring the heroic pickets who carried on the struggle against WALT DISNEY's SONG OF THE SOUTH. b7D

Another activity of the Congress has been protesting against alleged police brutality against minority races and the November 14, 1946 issue of the CALIFORNIA EAGLE stated that a delegation was scheduled to visit the City Hall in Los Angeles on November 25th to protest what the paper described as a new wave of police brutality.

The article stated that the call for those to attend the delegation had been put out jointly by the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS and the MOBILIZATION FOR DEMOCRACY. The article also reported the alleged facts concerning the beating of a Negro by a Police Officer at 5th and Hill Streets. In the issue of November 21 on the first page, a news item reported the forming of a Police Brutality Committee which was reportedly meeting each week in the office of the Committee Chairman LEO GALLAGHER.

On December 11, 1946 [redacted] furnished a mimeographed throw-away pamphlet put out by the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS in Los Angeles from its headquarters at 1051 E. 41st Street which was headed "Lynch Murder - Police Brutality - America's Shame," and contained a drawing of a hooded figure labeled K.K.K., another human figure labeled Lyncher and in the background were shown two figures hanging from a tree. The throw-away stated that we "demand the just and democratic rights so erroneously fought for" and also urged those who read the pamphlet to write the Police Commission, Mayor, etc., to protest the use of tax money for the payment of the salary of "trigger happy" cops. It also criticized the city of Los Angeles and the Police Department for the jailing of pickets who were described as "honest workers seeking economic freedom" and the arrests were alleged to have been made by "Fascist minded cops." b7D

117075

In the December 5th issue of the CALIFORNIA EAGLE, there appeared a news item stating that on December 15th, H. M. BASNER of the Union of South Africa would speak at the Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles under the auspices of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

In the December 12th issue of the paper, there appeared an editorial concerning BASNER's talk, and stated that BASNER would be introduced by REV. J. RAYMOND HENDERSON. In the same issue there appeared a long news item concerning BASNER, together with his photograph, and the issues December 19th contained both an editorial and a long news item publicizing this last rally which the Congress had sponsored.

[redacted] memorandum dated December 10, 1946 addressed to all section organizers and section organizational secretaries notifying them of the BASNER talk and containing the following statement. It is extremely important that we give the closest support by mobilizing as many people as possible to attend this gathering. It is especially important that we have a good representation of white people. This mimeographed letter was signed by PETTIS PERRY, Chairman of the Communist Party Nationalities Commission. 67D

Another activity sponsored by the Congress has been against lynching and in the February 13, 1947 issue of the EAGLE there was a report of a meeting sponsored by the Congress which had been held on the previous Friday evening at which the principal speaker was Mr. BASS who had recently attended a crusade to end lynching and oust BILBO meeting in Washington, D.C. She reported on the efforts of the group to obtain legislation and support for anti-lynching. Also in the issue of February 20th, there appeared a news item reporting that the Negro Congress had issued a sharp denunciation of the lynching which had recently taken place in South Carolina and urged all readers to send protest resolutions, etc., to certain members of the House and Senate.

Other miscellaneous activities on the part of the Congress have been an intense membership drive and a fight against discrimination on account of race in the matter of employment and a meeting held in the Santa Monica, California area for the purpose of attempting to organize a chapter of the Congress in that area. All of these activities have received a great deal of publicity in the California Eagle and in addition the Congress itself has received a great deal of publicity.

One of these was a party given for the benefit of the Congress at the home of FRANCES WILLIAMS and TONY HILL. The party was reported in the December 19th issue of the CALIFORNIA EAGLE. Numerous pictures and a long social report of the party were given in that issue of the paper.

- P E N D I N G -

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION,

At Los Angeles, California, will continue to report the Communist control and infiltration into the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and also report the activities of that organization.

Will attempt to identify any Communist affiliation or connection on the part of members of the Executive Board who were no identified in this report.

Copies of this report are being forwarded to the Chicago and Detroit Offices for their information inasmuch as one or the other of these offices may later be designated as Office of Origin in this case, in the event the National Headquarters of the Congress are changed from New York City.

A copy of this report is being designated for the San Diego Office for its information in view of the related activities of the Congress in this area.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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FILE NO. 100-
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW HAVEN, CONN.	4/28/47	4/28/47	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
PROPERTY OF NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY

Reclassified

SYNOPSIS: [redacted] has active chapters at New Haven, Bridgeport, Hartford, Norwalk and Stamford, Connecticut. Connecticut Communist Party has taken interest in organization and many of the officials of NNC local chapters are known to be members of CP, activities and officials of chapter organizations set forth.

NNC

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 9/9/42 at

DETAILS: COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF NNC CHAPTERS, CONNECTICUT

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

[redacted]

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM II, 1-24.2

CONFIDENTIAL

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature], Special Agent in Charge

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

64 6 MAY 30 1947

RECORDED

INDEXED

32 APR 29 1947

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[redacted] b7D

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[redacted] advised that JOHN HOLTON of Hartford, Connecticut, was a member of the Resource Panel at the tenth annual convention of the NNC held at Detroit from May 30 to June 2, 1946. At this same convention MOZELLE EDWARDS of Bridgeport, Connecticut, was elected a member of the Executive Board of the NNC. [redacted]

[redacted] b7D

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[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that an NNC meeting [redacted] was held on October 25, 1946 at 1430 Main Street, Bridgeport. Among the twentytwo attending, eleven were CP members. [redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

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[redacted]

At this [redacted] meeting it was decided that a temporary steering committee should be elected consisting of two members. Those elected were FRANK WILLIAMS of New Haven as Chairman and NOLA JACKSON, Secretary, of New Haven. [redacted]

[redacted] advised that there were indications that during the month of October, 1946, MOZELLE EDWARDS gave a list of the NNC members in Bridgeport to functionaries of the Communist Party headquarters in Bridgeport so that such members could be sent election propaganda. [redacted]

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NNC CHAPTER - BRIDGEPORT

OFFICERS

CONFIDENTIAL

On February 3, 1946 an article in the Bridgeport Post advised that THELMA DALE, National Secretary of the NNC, would be guest speaker at the installation meeting of the Bridgeport Council of the NNC, at which time the following officers would be installed:

President	-	JACOB E. HOLMES
Vice President	-	HENRY JOHNSON
Secretary	-	MOZELLE EDWARDS
Financial Secretary	-	RALEIGH YOUNGBLOOD
Treasurer	-	JACOB PORTER

On August 8, 1946 the Bridgeport Post in an article stated that the Bridgeport Council of the NNC had the following officers:

HENRY JOHNSON	-	Acting President
MOZELLE EDWARDS	-	Secretary
JACOB PORTER	-	Treasurer
RALPH JACOBS	-	Membership Chairman
EMMETT SYKES	-	Chairman of the By-Laws Committee

[redacted]

In connection with the presidency, [redacted] mentioned on January 31, 1947 that JACOB E. HOLMES, the former president, was not too popular with the membership. [redacted]

b7D

On November 15, 1946 [redacted] stated that HENRY WALKER was president of the NNC.

ACTIVITIES

An article in the Bridgeport Post of March 21, 1946 stated that the Bridgeport Council of the NNC was to hold a protest rally at Shiloh Baptist Church against the recent slayings of Negroes at Freeport, Long Island, and Columbia, Tennessee. Chairman of the meeting was to be M. MC DONALD ISAAC, JR. and Program Chairman was to be CLARENCE C. EDWARDS. Speakers will be the Reverend WILLIAM W. SULLIVAN of the Second Baptist Church, the Reverend R. B. HURT of the AME Zion Church and Miles Pennybacker, President - Fairfield County District, Connecticut Citizens Political Action Committee. The rally had the endorsement of IRVING W. ABB, President of the Bridgeport CIO Council; PETER BENARD, President of the AFL City Council; the Reverend JOSEPH A. SWAIN, Washington Park Methodist Church; Rabbi HARRY NELSON,

CONFIDENTIAL

Congregational Rodeph Sholom, the American-Russian Fraternal Society and the New Era Lodge of the Elks, a colored lodge.

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that a supper was to be held on May 25, 1946 at Edwards Restaurant, Bridgeport, by the Bridgeport Council of the NNC to raise money in order to send three delegates to the NNC Convention to be held at Detroit, Michigan. b7D

The Bridgeport Post on May 29, 1946 in an article concerning the NNC mentioned that the following delegates of the Bridgeport Council would represent the organization at the tenth anniversary convention of the NNC to be held at Detroit, Michigan, from May 29 to June 2, 1946:

MOZELLE EDWARDS
CLARENCE WILLIAMS
RALEIGH YOUNGBLOOD

It further mentioned that in response to a call for various unions to send delegates, the following were selected:

GEORGE MAC CRAY, Columbia Local 237, UEW-CIO
FRED MENSCH, GE Local 203, UEW-CIO

[redacted]

On June 26, 1946 the Bridgeport Post in an article stated that the Bridgeport Council of the NNC met on June 27, 1946 at the Mount Erie Baptist Church, at which time CHARLES COLLINS of New York, National Board member, was the principal speaker. At this meeting the delegates from Bridgeport to the National Convention; namely, MILDRED EDWARDS, GEORGE MAC CRAY, RALEIGH YOUNGBLOOD and CLARENCE WILLIAMS also spoke. b7D

[redacted] advised on August 22, 1946 that permission had been granted to the Bridgeport Council of the NNC for holding a public meeting at 8:00 PM, August 23, 1946 at South and Main Streets, Bridgeport. The meeting was to be held to secure support of petition to the United Nations. Request for holding such meeting was made by RALPH JACOBS, [redacted] Bridgeport. b7C

[redacted] advised that permission had been granted to the same organization to conduct an outing at Stadler's Park on September 1, 1946 and that the permit had been issued at the request of RALPH JACOBS. b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

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The Bridgeport Post on September 18, 1946 stated that at a recent neighborhood rally of the NNC held in Bridgeport the speaker was Rev. EDGAR JACKSON, former Army chaplain. CLARENCE EDWARDS was Council Program Chairman and master of ceremonies. GEORGE MAC CRAY was listed as Chairman of the Signature Campaign and Mrs. C. P. SWINNEY was mentioned as the person who had secured the greatest number of signatures in this drive for submitting a signed petition to the United Nations calling the attention of that organization to the fact that discrimination existed in the United States against the Negro race.

[redacted] a meeting of the NNC was held at St. Mark's Parish House, Bridgeport, at 8:00 PM [redacted] The following CP members were present at this meeting: 67D

[redacted]

In addition to the above, the following individuals who [redacted] believed to be Communist Party members, but not known as such, were in attendance:

[redacted]

EDWARD STRONG of the National Office of the NNC was the guest speaker of the meeting and stated that the purpose of the Negro History Week was to acquaint the people in the United States with the cultural progress of the Negroes. STRONG mentioned that democracy in the United States was for white people only and not accorded to the Negroes. He stated that the crusade undertaken by Winston Churchill and continued in this country by Senator Vandenberg and James Byrnes, former Secretary of State, to prevent the progress of the Negroes will fail because it stands for the slavery of the Negro race. STRONG advised that Henry Wallace and a few other liberals stood alone for the fight for Negroes' rights, but that Wallace was doomed for taking a progressive stand.

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NNC CHAPTER - NEW HAVEN

ACTIVITIES

b7D

[redacted] a mimeographed pamphlet distributed by the New Haven Council of the NNC which listed a summary of the activities of this organization during the year 1946. This pamphlet is reproduced in full along with pertinent comments of various observations made by informants:

NEW HAVEN COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

FORWARD THROUGH UNITY TO FULL CITIZENSHIP FOR NEGRO AMERICANS

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

The National Negro Congress sprang into existence out of the heart of the Negro people's deep and passionate yearning for, and determination to achieve full dignity and equality of existence among the people's of the earth. The National Negro Congress inherits the rich contributions of the Negro people to the best traditions of America embracing the fighting courage of Crispus Attucks, Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Gabriel, Denmark Vasey, Nat Turner, Harriet Tubman, and Dorie Miller.

The National Negro Congress is an anti-fascist instrument of struggle of an oppressed people with their allies, pledge to carry forward the militant spirit of that people. It gathers strength from the working class unity of Negro and white workers within the organized labor movement and in other peoples' organizations. The program of the National Negro Congress must be a common ground upon which all people interested in Negro rights and the promotion of democracy for all Americans can meet and pool their strength and resources toward the goal of social, economic and political freedom. The Congress seeks to achieve its objectives through constructive and united action with labor, church, civic and fair minded Americans.

In order that the National Negro Congress may strengthen the character and quality of the struggle for full freedom of the Negro people in America and for the liberation of all people.

On June 4, 1946 [redacted] advised that the NNC had started an organization in New Haven holding meetings at the homes of various members. At that time the group had a membership of eleven and there were forty-three candidates for membership. [redacted]

b7D

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[redacted] RUDOLPH HEATH, [redacted] was President of the newly formed Chapter of the NNC and [redacted] active in the organization were CLARENCE CARTER, GEORGE GLOVER and CHARLES VALENTINE.

OBJECTIVES

1. To secure for the Negro people full citizenship rights, especially those guaranteed by the 13, 14, and 15 Amendments to the Federal Constitution.

2. To secure employment for the Negro people free from all manner of job discrimination by governmental agencies and private industry.

3. To secure the right of the Negro people to be free from Jim-crowism, segregation, discrimination, lynching and mob violence and work for the enactment of Federal anti-lynching legislation.

4. To promote the cause of trade unionism among Negroes and to work for the organization of Negro workers into trade unions on a basis of a full equality with all other trade union members.

5. To work for effective and adequate local, state and national programs for meeting the educational, health and housing needs of the people without discrimination with respect to geographical areas; race, color, creed or national origin, and to provide for security against old age, unemployment and want.

6. To foster the cultural development and expression of the Negro people, to spread the truth regarding their traditions and contributions to American democracy, and to combat all falsifications and distortions of their historic role in American life.

7. To promote the cause of peace, to further the aims of the United Nations, to aid the liberation of the oppressed people of Africa, the West Indies, Latin America, the Middle and Far East, China and India; peoples whose aspirations for freedom are one with ours; to oppose imperialist wars and oppression and to strive for the realizations of a genuine brotherhood of men.

8. To work to end all discrimination, and especially segregation in our armed forces.

9. To promote the spirit of unity and cooperation between the Negro and white people in a common struggle for their mutual welfare and advancement.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

The New Haven Council of the National Negro Congress, was organized on June 22, 1946, at the home of George Glover. Three other ex-servicemen, Luther

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Groom, Harold Rogers and Rudolph V. Heath, helped in the organizing.

1. A drive was launched at once to secure members. Leaflets were distributed to acquaint the public with our objectives. Meetings were held from home to home.

2. On July 2nd, the UN petition campaign was launched in behalf of 13 million oppressed Negroes. The New Haven Council obtained 3,000 individual signatures from the month of July through January 1947.

3. July 7th; membership had grown to 50 members. [redacted] The following officers were elected:

R. V. Heath, President
Frank Williams, Vice President
Harold Rogers, Treasurer
Midge Barbee, Financial Secretary
Nola Jackson, Recording Secretary

On July 24th, an application for charter was sent to the National Office.

August 6th, a Protest Rally was held at Foote and Dixwell Avenue, protesting the brutal murder of the Malcolms and Dorseys in Georgia. Petition blanks were signed and approximately 500 people attended the Rally.

The National Negro Congress was the first organization in New Haven to protest this brutal crime.

b7D

[redacted] advised on August 1, 1946 that permission had been granted to RUDOLPH HEATH (Negro) of the NNC to hold an open air meeting at Foote and Dixwell Avenue on August 6, 1946. Speakers at this meeting were listed as ISAAC WOODWARD (Negro) and _____ LAWRENCE (Negro) of CIO.

According to a leaflet distributed by the NNC Chapter made available by [redacted] this meeting was a protest demonstration against terrorism existing against Negroes in Tennessee and Georgia and was jointly sponsored by the NNC and the American Youth for Democracy. Listed on the leaflet as one of the speakers was JOSEPH SQUIRES, UE-CIO [redacted] b7D b7C

On August 30, 1946 [redacted] made available a leaflet announcing a membership campaign of the Ivor Hannibal Chapter of the NNC, New Haven, which mentioned that further information could be obtained from FRANK WILLIAMS, b7D

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Labor-Legislative Director, 86 Front Street, New Haven; GEORGE GLOVER, Recording Secretary, 495 Elm Street or RUDOLPH HEATH, Financial Secretary, 36 Charles Street.

August 10th, a Peace Rally was held at the Labor Temple. Mr. Edward Strong, 5th Vice President of the NNC, was the principal speaker.

b7D

In connection with this Rally [redacted] made available a leaflet distributed by the NNC stating that the Rally was held on September 6, 1946 and that the speakers besides Mr. STRONG were Miss MOZELIE EDWARDS, the National Executive Committee of the NNC; EDWARD MC CRONE of the CIO; NATHAN SHERMAN, Union Times, AFL and Rev. ATKINSON of Pitts Chapel. b7C

[redacted]

[redacted] the meeting was held on September 6, 1946 at the Labor Temple and not on August 10, 1946 as mentioned in the mimeographed publication. b7D

September 12, 1946, a membership Campaign was launched. Headquarters was at the home of Mrs. NOLA JACKSON, 32 Charles Street. Approximately 300 members joined.

September 26th, a Petition Rally was held at Dixwell and Foote Street. 250 people attended.

[redacted]

Money was raised to send delegates to the American Crusade to end Lynching at Washington, D. C. Eight delegates were sent from the New Haven Council.

Sept. 28. The New Haven Council of the NNC, was the first organization to support the Winchester Rolling Mill employees who were unjustly locked out of their jobs.

Oct. 19. A Rally was held at the New Haven Green by the UE-CIO, the New Haven Council secured Mr. Doxey Wilkerson to speak at this meeting. Mr. Wilkerson is a NNC Executive and general manager of the "People's Voice".

Oct. 24th. Miss Thelma Dale, NNC Field Sec'y, spoke at a meeting of the locked out workers of Winchesters, at the UE Hall. She urged each Negro worker to join and support the Union, because the Labor Movement had played a great part in doing away with discrimination against Negroes in America.

[redacted] the NNC held a meeting at the Labor Temple, Goffe Street on October 24, 1946, which meeting was entitled "The New Haven Crusade to End Lynching". Chairman of this meeting was RUDOLPH HEATH and the speakers were RICHARD LINSLEY of the CIO and HOPER STEVENSON of the National Office of the NNC. Approximately 200 attended the meeting and $50. was collected in contributions. b7D

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[redacted]

NORWALK

On August 6, 1946 the Norwalk Hour advised that at a meeting of the newly formed Norwalk Chapter of the NNC on August 5, 1946 the following officers were elected:

President -	Rev. J. P. BALL, Pastor of Grace Baptist Church
Vice President -	HENRY MIDDLETON
Executive Secretary -	RUDOLPH GILLESPIE
Recording Secretary -	Mrs. MARTHA WILSON
Corresponding Sec'y.-	Miss BESSIE SMITH

[redacted]

At this meeting Rev. BALL appointed a committee of seven to obtain 100 signatures for a petition which was to be submitted to the United Nations on behalf of the 13 million Negroes in the United States. This petition was to call to the attention of the United Nations the fact that 13 million Negro citizens are suffering from economic, social and political discrimination in the United States.

The Norwalk Hour of January 10, 1947 mentioned that the Norwalk Chapter of the NNC had installed the following officers for the year, 1947:

President -	THOMAS AIKEN
Vice President -	Rev. J. P. BALL
Second Vice Pres. -	MARTHA WILSON
Recording Secretary	BESSIE SMITH
Financial Secretary	Mrs. MABEL WEEKS
Treasurer -	Rev. SAMUEL WILLIAMS

Committee Chairmen:	Mrs. GERALD PORTER	-	Publicity
	EARL STILL	-	Membership
	HARDWICK SAUNDERS	-	Veterans Committee
	P. C. SMITH	-	Petition Committee
	JAMES MARTIN	-	Labor
	Mrs. FLORENCE CARLOS	-	Education

STAMFORD

The Stamford Advocate on May 8, 1946 in an article stated that the Stamford Chapter of the NNC would meet at Elks Hall to protest the Freeport, Long Island

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[redacted] a meeting of the NNC was held on November 7, 1946 b7D
at 256 Goffe Street, New Haven, and that FRANCES FEIDMAN, [redacted]
[redacted], was the main speaker. b7C

[redacted] b7D

Nov. 18th. The New Haven Council rented office space at 256 Goffe Street, where regular meetings are held.

Nov. 25th. The New Haven Council of the NNC, sponsored a Rally at the Labor Temple, during the 100 Day Crusade to End Lynching. Hope R. Stevens of the National Office was the guest speaker. Resolutions were passed and sent to the Board of Aldermen, Mayor Celentano, Atty. DiCenzo, Corporation Council for the City, and to the Senators and Congressmen of the 80th Congress.

Mayor Celentano sent a letter to the New Haven Council, commenting on the work that we are doing in New Haven, and pledged his support.

Dec. 21st. A delegation was sent to see Rep. Ellsworth B. Foote, of the 3rd Congressional District, concerning his views on an ouster movement against Bilbo, and on his views on Economic Discrimination on jobs for minority groups, and his consent on the passing of an FEPC. A favorable report was received, after a lengthy discussion. The delegation composed of members and friends as follows: Pres. Rudolph Heath, Nola Jackson, Joseph Dimow, Rev. Henry, and Joseph Gibson.

Dec. 23rd. The following Senators and Congressmen were contacted, concerning their views on the ousting of Bilbo at the opening of the 80th Congressional Session:

Rep. Wm. Miller, R. 1st. Dist.
Rep. Seely Brown, R. 2nd.Dist.
Rep. E. B. Foote, R. 3rd.Dist.
Rep. John B. Lodge, R.4th.Dist.
J. T. Patterson, R.5th Dist.(Rep.)
Rep. A. Sadlak, R.
Sen. Brian McMahon, D.
Sen. Raymond Baldwin, R.

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Jan. 1, 1947. Mrs. Nola Jackson was sent to Washington, D. C., as a delegate from the New Haven Council to the 100 Day Crusade to end Lynching, and the ousting of Bilbo Campaign.

Jan. 9. Mrs. Jackson gave a report on the Crusade. Letters were received from many of the Senators and Congressmen, congratulating us on the vital issues we are fighting for.

Jan. 10. News releases were in the local papers, concerning the Resolution which the Council sent to the Mayor and to the Board of Aldermen in regards to the Fair Employment Practice Act, which is to come up in the Feb. Board meeting.

Jan. 20. The New Haven Council, NNC, made an appeal to the Gov. of the State of Conn., to proclaim the week of Feb. 9-15th, as Negro History Week. We also made an appeal to the New Haven Mayor, to follow suit.

Feb. 9th. The Frederick Douglas Lodge #909, IWO, and the New Haven Council, NNC, sponsored a Rally, given at the Immanuel Baptish Church. Mr. Don Smith from the National Office of the NNC, was the guest speaker.

Feb. 8th. A delegation from the New Haven Council, called on the manager of Loew's Poli Theatre, Mr. Rosenthal, to ask him to ban the showing of the Film "Song of the South". Upon Mr. Rosenthal's refusal, the Council told him that a picket line would be thrown around his theatre.

February 10. Letters were sent to the Frederick Douglas Lodge, IWO, to the NAACP, and to the AYD, asking for aid in the picket line. The IWO, and the AYD responded wholeheartedly. However, we received no response from the NAACP.

During the week of Feb. 19th, "Song of the South" was moved to the Loew's Bijou Theatre. The Picket Line was continued.

The organizations which cooperated in the Picket Line, are proud of their success, and of the contacts they made.

Officers elected to serve for 1947, are as follows:

Rudolph Heath,	Pres.
Harold Rogers,	Vice Pres.
Nola Jackson,	Fin. Sec'y
Frank Williams,	Treas.
Fannie Green	Rec. Sec'y
Helen Rogers	Membership Sec'y

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We are urgently asking your organization, its members, and its friends, to contribute to our Rally, which will end on the 24th of May. Any amount sent to the organization will be greatly appreciated. Our mailing address is, The New Haven Council, NNC, 256 Goffe Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

[redacted] stated that the meeting at which officers were elected to serve for 1947 was held on January 23, 1947 at 256 Goffe Street. [redacted]

b7D

Besides the officers listed in the mimeographed copy distributed by the NNC, [redacted] stated that the following other officers were elected:

Executive Board: JOSEPH DIMOW
Mr. and Mrs. CARRINGTON
Mr. and Mrs. GROOM
Mr. Hall
PAUL BLOOM

Chairman of the Culture and Education Committee: JOSEPH DIMOW

Chairman of the Womens Commission: NOLA JACKSON

Chairman of the Entertainment Committee: Mr. GROOM

Chairman of the Literature Committee: PAUL BLOOM

Among those mentioned above who are active members of the Communist Party are the following:

[redacted]

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[redacted] b7D

NORWALK

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Recording Secretary -	Mrs. MARTHA WILSON
Corresponding Sec'y.-	Miss BESSIE SMITH

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Second Vice Pres. -	MARTHA WILSON
Recording Secretary	BESSIE SMITH
Financial Secretary	Mrs. MABEL WEEKS
Treasurer -	Rev. SAMUEL WILLIAMS

Committee Chairmen:	Mrs. GERALD PORTER	-	Publicity
	EARL STILL	-	Membership
	HARDWICK SAUNDERS	-	Veterans Committee
	P. C. SMITH	-	Petition Committee
	JAMES MARTIN	-	Labor
	Mrs. FLORENCE CARLOS	-	Education

STAMFORD

The Stamford Advocate on May 8, 1946 in an article stated that the Stamford Chapter of the NNC would meet at Elks Hall to protest the Freeport, Long Island

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killings of Negroes and the Columbia, Tennessee, incident. Speakers at this meeting were:

DOROTHY KAY FUNN, Legislative Director of the NNC
DOROTHY LANGSTON, Chairman of the Committee for Justice in Freeport
ROSETTA CRAWFORD, Stamford resident, who was an eye witness to the disorders in Columbia, Tennessee.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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) (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-896

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA	5/3/47	4/24/47	[redacted] EWJ

b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: JOHN T. WILLIAMS, [redacted] attended CP sponsored AVC meeting February 25, 1947, as representative of NNC to assist in formation of San Diego "Citizens' Housing Committee". Members of NNC assisted in CP sponsored picket line March 8, 1947, protesting showing of "Song of the South" at the Fox Theater, San Diego.

b7C

P *

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 3, 1947.

b7C

[redacted]

DETAILS: On February 26, 1947, [redacted] advised that a CP sponsored meeting of the AVC was held on the evening of February 25, 1947, to get representatives of various organizations to participate in the formation of a San Diego "Citizens' Housing Committee". JOHN T. WILLIAMS, [redacted] attended this meeting as a representative of the National Negro Congress.

b7D

[redacted] stating that the National Negro Congress was having a meeting that evening. [redacted] informed the woman that ENOS BAKER, negro and Chairman of the San Diego Communist Party, [redacted]

b2

G.I.R.9

b7D

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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61-6728-1

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3-San Diego

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F B I
37 MAY 13 1947

EX-50

[redacted] he would attend the National Negro Congress meeting that evening.

[redacted] discussed the CP sponsored picket line which the CP, the CIO and the NNC had established in front of the Fox Theater, 7th and B Streets, San Diego, to protest the showing of "Song of the South" on the grounds that it was discriminatory to the negro race.

b7D
b2

The March 9, 1947 edition of the San Diego Union in an article related that the National Negro Congress, the Communist Party and the CIO picketed the Fox Theater on March 8, 1947, protesting portrayal of the above-mentioned film.

PENDING *

SD 100-896

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

SAN DIEGO FIELD DIVISION

At San Diego, California,

Will follow and report CP activity in the National Negro Congress [redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE No. 100-662

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Miami, Florida	5/8/47	10/1,18,22/46; 3/5,7/47	[redacted] etc. b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ROSCOE LACY of Orlando, Fla., and WILLIAM HEPBURN of Miami, Fla., attended 10th annual convention of NNC in Detroit, Michigan, 5/30/46 as delegates from State of Florida. No indication NNC presently active in Florida. LACY's background set forth.

STATISTICS MAY 1947 71 REFERENCE RECORDED

- RUC -

DETAILS:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, 8/30/46. b7c

This investigation was re-opened on the basis of information set forth in the reference report of Special Agent [redacted] indicating that ROSCOE LACY of Orlando, Florida, and WILLIAM A. HEPBURN of Miami, Florida, attended the 10th annual convention of the NNC at Detroit, Michigan, on May 30, 1946, as delegates from the State of Florida. b7c

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] at Orlando, Florida: b7c

[redacted] b7D,c

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J. G. Thornton, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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58 MAY 21 1947

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MM 100-662

[redacted] b7C

[redacted] b7D b2

[redacted] A review of the contents of this letter reveals that there is apparently very little activity on the part of LACY at Orlando, Florida, to establish the NNC in that area. [redacted] that he did not know whether a Miami Chapter of the NNC had been established or not and suggested that information concerning the Miami group could be secured from WILLIAM HEPBURN, 1133 N.W. 4th Avenue.

At Miami, Florida

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D b7C

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] nor has any information been received from the sources of information available to this office which would indicate that the NNC is presently active in the State.

In view of this information, no further investigation is warranted at this time and this case is referred upon completion to the office of origin.

* * *

One copy of this report is designated for the Mobile Office for information inasmuch as Mobile covers the northern portion of the State of Florida.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI

DATE: May 15, 1947

FROM: SAC, Detroit

29652

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(61-6728)

b7c

Since the submission of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 26, 1946, the Communist Party, [redacted] have been concerned over the National Negro Congress operations and have been particularly dissatisfied with the work of VERA VANDERBERG, [redacted] who finally resigned on May 1, 1947 and was replaced by FRANCES PRICE [redacted] as Executive Secretary.

CONF. INFT.

On November 18, 1946, [redacted] reported a conversation between [redacted] of the office of the NNC, and [redacted] of District 7, CP, in which both expressed opinions that the Detroit NNC leadership was poor and that VERA VANDERBERG should be asked to resign.

b7D
b2

This Informant also advised that [redacted] told a delegation from the CP National Headquarters, that it was felt that VANDERBERG should be replaced by PRICE in running the NNC. He also asserted in answer to a question by [redacted] that if the NNC were allowed to die in Detroit, the personnel would be transferred to the Civil Rights Congress to carry on their work in the Negro field.

b7D
b2

[redacted] stated that she saw very little future for the local NNC Office if the National NNC did not do anything about it. [redacted] was present at this meeting and asserted that the Party was being stalemated by the National Office of the NNC and he passed on the rumor that EDWARD STRONG was quitting and that REVELS CATON was going into Union work.

b7D
b2

CONF INFT

On the following day, [redacted] reported that [redacted] had advised [redacted] and [redacted] who are active in the Civil Rights Congress, that the Party intended to review the situation in the NNC and pass on their recommendations to the National Office. She asserted that she agreed with those who held the opinion that all progressives should be put en masse in the Detroit Chapter of the National Association For the Advancement of Colored People.

b7D
b2

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15 MAY 17 1947

MCW:VAK
100-1049
cc. - New York

EX-5

58 MAY 26 1947

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 23, 1947

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

29653

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

On April 5, 1947 [redacted] furnished this office with the enclosed material.

b7D

This material, consisting of nine photographs, refers to the relationship of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the NATIONAL CIO COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH DISCRIMINATION.

G.I.R.-9

Enc. 9

ENCL. ATTACHED

cc-New York
100-10595 (COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF CIO
INDUSTRIAL UNION COUNCIL - PHILADELPHIA)

JIG:MFM
100-869

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Bartholomew
McCrudden

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY

FILE NO. 100-930

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	6/18/47	3/5,31/47	[redacted] CK

TITLE
6 NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
117068

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Seattle Council of National Negro Congress created on 9/8/46 succeeding the Inter-Racial Action Committee. Headquarters established at Shipscalers Hall, 2231 Third Avenue, Seattle, and meetings held at Marine Cooks and Stewards Hall, 110 Cherry Street. Approximately 250 members to date [redacted]

NO JUL 1947 71 STATISTICS

- P* -

GLR-5

DETAILS: This case was opened in the Seattle Division upon receipt of information that a Seattle Branch of the National Negro Congress had been set up in September, 1946.

FORMATION & ORGANIZATION

[redacted] told him that the National Negro Congress had been established in Seattle, Washington on September 6, 1946 and further that it had replaced the old Inter-Racial Action Committee.

Literature distributed by the National Negro Congress in the Seattle area makes reference to the Seattle organization as the Seattle Council of the National Negro Congress. No information has been received establishing the scope and

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EX-45

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jurisdiction of the Seattle Council nor does it appear whether other chapters of the National Negro Congress have been established elsewhere in the state of Washington. It is noted that the NEW WORLD in March, 1947 made references to a Grand Coulee Chapter of the National Negro Congress. However, there has been no information received showing that any actual organization of a Grand Coulee Chapter has ever taken place.

Headquarters

According to leaflets circulated by the Seattle Council of the National Negro Congress and the statements of informants, its headquarters are located at 2231 Third Avenue which is the Shipscalers Hall. CARL BROOKS, the organizer and principal spokesman for the organization, maintains an office there.

Meetings are reportedly scheduled weekly in the Marine Cooks and Stewards Hall, (CIO), at 110 Cherry Street, Seattle.

Membership

b7D

[redacted] reported in February of 1947 that the organization has approximately 250 members, of which about 40 were white. [redacted] did not know of any members of the yellow race or other colored races.

It was also reported by [redacted] that both colored and white members could belong to the organization. [redacted] b7D [redacted] stated that a $1.00 initiation fee was charged and that the dues were $3.00 per year.

[redacted] a mimeographed letter b7D with the National Negro Congress letterhead [redacted] The mimeographed letter is in part as follows:

"Dear Member:

"Enclosed is your membership card.

"We are happy to welcome you into the ranks of the National Negro Congress..... We know you will do everything possible to build your local Council into a strong fighting unit of the National Negro Congress".

The letter is signed "Fraternally yours, REVELS CAYTON, Executive Secretary."

Meetings

67D

[redacted] knew of no regularly scheduled meetings and knew of no committees which had been organized to date. He stated that he knew numerous meetings had been held at the Marine Cooks and Stewards Hall at 110 Cherry Street but he could not state as to their regularity.

[redacted] said that he understood meetings were scheduled each week.

Officers

67D

[redacted] reported on February 1, 1947 that to his knowledge the following were the officers of the Seattle Council:

Chairman or President	-	CHARLES NICHOLS
Executive Secretary	-	CARL BROOKS
Secretary-Treasurer	-	LOIS BLAKES
Organizer	-	PASKER J. BLAKES

All of these were colored with the exception of LOIS BLAKES who is white and is married to PASKER BLAKES, the organizer.

[redacted]

67D

It is further noted that on February 6, 1947 [redacted] reported that JOHN CAUGHLAN stated that he was the attorney for the National Negro Congress. JOHN CAUGHLAN on the basis of information received from various sources is the attorney for the Communist Party in Seattle, Washington.

CONNECTION WITH COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

67D

[redacted] a 12-page mimeographed draft resolution of the Communist Party of the United States on the "Negro question". This resolution dated July 10, 1946 stated on Page 3 "organizations of the Negro people have grown to unprecedented numbers, the NAACP alone having 900 branches and 520,000 members. The National Negro Congress, representing the most advanced sector of the Negro

peoples liberation movement, fusing in its leadership the new Negro working class and the most socially conscious elements of all other classes of Negro people, is becoming a mass organization."

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted] stated that members of the Communist Party had been sent to serve on a picket line which was ostensibly conducted by the National Negro Congress. [redacted] pointed out that one TED WOTEN represented the National Negro Congress in the Renton, Washington area. [redacted]

b7D

With reference to the foregoing information received [redacted] regarding the Communist Party's action in setting up the National Negro Congress, [redacted] confirmed the action taken by the Negro Commission of the Communist Party in selecting CARL BROOKS to head the local chapter.

b7D

SE 100-930

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D,E

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

ACTIVITIES OF THE SEATTLE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

During the months of December, 1946 and January, 1947, the National Negro Congress publicly sponsored the picketing of a grocery store and apartment building located in the colored section of Seattle. The owners were charged with discriminating against colored persons insofar as hiring colored persons in the store and renting the apartments to colored persons.

The National Negro Congress has also distributed a circular dealing with their efforts to have a new F.E.P.C. law passed. This

circular states "the National Negro Congress has introduced through Senator ALBERT ROSSELLINI, the New York F.E.P.C. law (the Governor DEWEY Bill); this bill was introduced Monday, February 17, 1947 and is Senate Bill 259 ....." The circular then tells the readers to contact their Congressmen or Senators or to get other organizers interested in the bill's passage.

In this same connection the Seattle Council distributed mimeographed sheet calling for a "March on Olympia Saturday, March 1st".

The circular urged the passage of Senate Bill 259 and was signed by the Seattle Council, National Negro Congress, 2231 Third Avenue, Seattle, 1, Washington.

The NEW WORLD on March 2, 1947 carried an article relating to reported discrimination against Negroes in the Grand Coulee Dam area. The newspaper article reported that the National Negro Congress presented to Congressmen in Olympia, detailed information concerning the various accounts of discrimination and urged Congressional action to remedy the situation.

The Seattle Council also distributed a leaflet captioned "You Need the National Negro Congress". The opening paragraph of this circular states:

> "The National Negro Congress is a "rough, tough, and angry" organization. That is necessarily so, because the Negro people face crucial problems. There is no longer time to be passive, nor are the Negro people in the mood to be passive. Our liberties are threatened. Our rights are denied. We fight — we must fight for our very existence. Our right to a decent life in a democratic America is challenged. We accept that challenge."

[redacted]

b7D

SE 100-930

Copies of this report has been designated for Butte and Portland since those offices are located within the 12th District of the Communist Party, which are under the jurisdiction of Headquarters in Seattle, Washington.

-P E N D I N G-

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE SEATTLE DIVISION

AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Will subsequently report any significant developments relative to the activities of the National Negro Congress in this territory.

) (2-7-79)

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100-662

6

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

G.I.R. 8

DELINQUENCY: Serial 4 is the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 9, 1941, at Omaha, Nebraska, which sets forth that local councils of the National Negro Congress had been formed at Ocala, Orange Park and St. Petersburg, Florida. Although subsequent investigation was conducted to determine the extent of this organization at various of the larger cities in Florida, no inquiry appears to have been conducted at the above-mentioned smaller cities where councils reportedly existed which appears desirable. b7c

Serial 22 is a memorandum of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 27, 1946, setting forth a lead to conduct appropriate investigation at Miami concerning [redacted] of the National Negro Congress at Detroit, who planned to establish a chapter in Miami. This lead is delinquent and no investigation as yet appears to have been conducted at Miami.

b7c

The same memorandum sets forth a lead to identify and investigate [redacted]

[redacted] Serial 23, which is a memorandum of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 23, 1946, sets forth considerable information concerning the background of [redacted] personally, however it describes none of his activities in the National Negro Congress and does not indicate whether he is active or inactive. Inasmuch as this investigation primarily concerns the activities of the National Negro Congress, additional specific investigation should be conducted at Orlando to determine the activities [redacted] in connection with this organization.

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61-6728

NOT RECORDED
MAR 13 1947

Inspection Report
Miami Office
SAC Thornton
February 20, 1947

67 MAR 17 1947

100-66

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

EXPLANATION: Agent [redacted] who has been handling cases of this type in Miami, Florida, has been absent from the vicinity of Miami a good deal of the time recently handling other matters. He will be afforded an opportunity in the immediate future to give this case investigative attention at Miami.

b7c

Additional investigation will be conducted at Orlando, Florida, concerning the activities of [redacted] in the National Negro Congress, and investigation will be conducted at Ocala, Orange Park and St. Petersburg, Florida, in order that the desired information concerning the National Negro Congress may be obtained.

Inspection Report
Miami Office
SAC Thornton
February 20, 1947

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 9, 1947

FROM : SAC, San Antonio

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY

Reference is made to the above-entitled matter in which reports have been previously furnished to the Bureau by this office.

This case has been carried in a pending inactive status in view of the inactivity of the San Antonio Council of the Congress.

[redacted] has advised during the past several months that the San Antonio Council has become completely inactivated, insofar as the holding of meetings is concerned. [redacted] was unable to advise as to whether the group actually has dissolved.

b7D

[redacted] promised to keep this office advised in the event the group became reactivated.

In view of the above, unless advised to the contrary, this matter is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

BMH: mm

cc - New York

100-220

161-1722-617
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G.I.R. 5 112

EX-7A

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DATE 6/4/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RA

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: October 31, 1947

FROM : MR. D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
[redacted]
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mendoh
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to Mr. Tamm's memorandum to you dated September 18, 1947, captioned as above. In this memorandum it was suggested that [redacted] of the NAACP be advised of the Communist Party program for infiltrating the NAACP, which was the subject of a communication to all Special Agents in Charge. Reference is also made to your notation attached to Mr. Tamm's memorandum wherein you requested to have the material upon which this was predicated. (U)

In accordance with your request, there is attached hereto a letter from the Detroit Field Division dated July 16, 1947, entitled "National Negro Congress, Internal Security - C," which was used as a basis for the preparation of the letter to all Special Agents in Charge. (U)

[redacted]

(C) b1

[redacted]

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CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP-1 GSK/RH 5/10/79 &
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR / /

INDEXED 19 FEB 25 1948

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CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] b1

Additional information has been received since the preparation of the letter to all Special Agents in Charge indicating that this policy is already being put into effect in Newark, New Jersey; Chicago, Illinois; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; New Haven, Connecticut; and Washington, D. C. (U)

In Washington, D. C., through [redacted] b7D It was learned that the National Board of the Communist Party, USA had ceased to look upon the National Negro Congress as the chief organization of the Negro people and had started to use the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People as a mobilizing force for Negroes. [redacted] related that in line with this policy, Communist Party forces are being assigned throughout the nation to work in the NAACP. [redacted] exceptions to this general rule are found in Detroit, Chicago, Washington, D. C., and on the West Coast where the National Negro Congress will be utilized to give leadership to the Negro people.

[redacted] also related that the avowed purpose of the Party in following this policy was to work in a capacity where it can lead the largest number of Negro people to protest existing conditions and to form a national liberation movement. [redacted] stating that in order to do this the Party feels it must swing the NAACP to the left and involve its mass membership in active demonstration work instead of leaving the organization in the hands of its present leadership. [redacted] related that three Communists were assigned to work in Washington, D. C. in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. b7D

Attachment

CONFIDENTIAL

) (2-7-79)

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 13, 1947

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b2
b7D

[redacted] The digest of the conversation is being set out below.

[redacted] of the New York Office of the Civil Rights Congress stated that the National Office of NNC knows that REVELS CAYTON and ED STRONG have both taken other jobs leaving THELMA DALE pretty much with everything on her hands. He said the possibility of NNC becoming a part of the CRC has been discussed nationally due to the relationship of NAACP. Also, it is a question of how long the NNC could hold together. [redacted] said this has not been a fixed decision but has merely been discussed and the matter should be taken up with [redacted] who was present.

[redacted] appeared surprised at this turn of event and thought it had been unfortunate that there was a lack of contact with the National Office. She was not in favor of dissolving the NNC and the only local person she had talked to who felt it should be dissolved was [redacted], Educational Director of District 7, CP. [redacted] stated that nobody is working for NNC full time now but that she still is responsbile for the office. [redacted] suggested that [redacted] write a letter to THELMA DALE, evidently in the National Office, on the basis of this discussion. [redacted] asked what the national position was with respect to the NAACP, [redacted] stated that the NAACP is the organization in the country of the negro organizations.

b7C

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DATE 6/11/79 BY SP1 GSK/RH

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED S[illegible] GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 30, 1947

FROM SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

[redacted] has reported that the local chapter of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS has disbanded because of its failure to obtain sufficient membership and the lack of interest shown by the National office. b7D

[redacted] has also reported on the disbanding of the local office of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS [redacted] He added that the local chapter of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS was no longer active in Philadelphia. b7D

In view of the foregoing, this case is being placed in a closed status.

JIG:img
100-869

cc: New York

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/11/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY FILE NO. 100-896

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN DIEGO	11-8-47	11-1-47	[redacted] b7C HB

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] advise the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS is no longer active or in existence in the San Diego area.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/12/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] San Diego, May 3, 1947.

DETAILS: [redacted] Since submission of reference report [redacted] b7D [redacted] and [redacted] have advised that subject organization is no longer in existence in the San Diego area and apparently has disbanded completely.

[redacted] the Communist Party leadership has indicated their desire to attempt to infiltrate and influence the NAACP henceforth rather than the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
W. A. Dingley		801+6728Y+623	RECORDED & INDEXED
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December 13, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

Will you please bring up to date a summary on [redacted] of the National Negro Congress.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

b7c
at
1-1 to

JEH:mt

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Tolson
A. Tamm
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Ladd
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Director, FBI

December 29, 1947

SAC, Baltimore

CP, USA, NEGRO
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(Bureau File 100-3-75)

There is being transmitted herewith one copy of an article entitled Behind the Harlem Outbreak dated August 11, 1943. This article consists of five mimeographed pages on the above subject.

Also being transmitted is a manual of organization for the National Negro Congress dated 1943. This manual consists of nine mimeographed pages.

b7D,E

This material was obtained through [redacted]

LBH:asg
100-4270

cc: 66-206A

ENCLOSURES

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: January 10, 1948

FROM : SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/12/79 BY SP-1 GSK/RH

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] at Washington, D.C., dated February 17, 1947.

b7CD

[redacted] has recently advised that the Washington council of the National Negro Congress has been dissolved and has pointed out that for all practical purposes the organization has been dormant for approximately one year.

To briefly note the activities of the organization the following is set forth.

[redacted] pointed out that on March 9, 1947, the council sponsored KENNETH SPENCER, Negro singer, at a Negro church in Washington where 43 people attended. The council lost $150 on the affair. Subsequently during the middle of March 1947 WILLIAM C. TAYLOR, chairman of the local Communist Party, advised [redacted] that the pressure against the Communist Party in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere in the United States for that matter, has "scared everyone away from the National Negro Congress."

b7D

[redacted] advised in the middle of May 1947 that TAYLOR had recently made a trip to New York City to contact REVELS CLAYTON for the purpose of reorganizing the council in Washington. For the past few months prior to that time the organization had been completely inactive and since April 28, 1947, the office located at 1015 M Street, NW, when open was only open for one or two hours a day.

[redacted] had learned that REVELS CLAYTON and DOROTHY FUNN had recently been in Washington in an attempt to locate MARIE RICHARDSON HARRIS, the executive secretary of the local council. However, HARRIS was aware of this and "wouldn't be found." [redacted] also advised [redacted] that the congress was completely dormant and disorganized and had no plans.

b7D

It is noted that on June 20, 1947, the local council sponsored a street meeting in Washington at 10th and U Streets, NW, and in this connection [redacted] was present. On June 16, 1947, [redacted] advised [redacted] that

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61-6724

DIRECTOR, FBI January 10, 1948

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b7C

he had talked with MAX YERGAN and REVELS CLAYTON and they had agreed to finance a mass meeting at 10th and U Streets on June 20th. At this time [redacted] instructed [redacted] to get a permit for the meeting and make further arrangements. Subsequently plans for the meeting were made [redacted]

[redacted] advised that the meeting was held as scheduled and that approximately 200 individuals, mainly Negroes, gathered around a truck which was used as a speakers stand [redacted] observed nine members of the Communist Party in attendance, including [redacted] The principal speaker was HENRY THOMAS who spoke concerning his struggle to organize Local 74 of the Hodcarriers in Washington. He pointed out that the Taft-Hartley Labor Bill was a slave act and that "if labor is to win the fight against the Taft-Hartley Bill, fight 'em strong. If you are speaking of labor struggles and revolutions, you can't name one where there wasn't some blood shed. Don't be afraid to fight--the FBI is here tonight, why couldn't they be in Georgia and Tennessee?" MARIE RICHARDSON HARRIS commented upon the congress' fight against police brutality in the District of Columbia. Another speaker was SAVANNAH CHURCHILL, a Negro entertainer.

b7D

[redacted] the congress then had $12 in its treasury and subsequently on August 16, 1947, ascertained that the congress on that date had given up its office at 1015 M Street, NW, and the future work of the congress was to be carried on from the residence of MARIE HARRIS. It is noted that on September 2, 1947, according to [redacted] BILL TAYLOR was anxious to reorganize the council and instructed HARRIS to notify certain individuals of a meeting so that preliminary steps could be taken in this regard.

[redacted]

DIRECTOR, FBI

January 10, 1948

RE: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] of District No. 4 of the Communist Party on [redacted] conferred with [redacted] concerning the progress being made in the reorganization of the congress. Nothing definite was arrived at. [redacted] explained that several mass meetings were planned. One of these was scheduled for September 30, 1947, and was held at the Goodwill Baptist Church, Washington, and was attended by 15 individuals. [redacted] this meeting was definitely a failure.

b7D

[redacted] had learned that [redacted] had received $400 in 1946 and $600 during 1947 from the Communist Party for her work in the National Negro Congress.

With the dissolution of the congress in Washington, the case in this office is being closed and the efforts of the Communist Party to infiltrate the NAACP will receive appropriate attention and the Bureau advised of any developments in this regard.

cc-New York

TCR:dmh
100-949
cc: 100-2941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECT
JAN 19 1948
TELETYPE

CONF WASH AND WASH FLD FROM NEW YORK 27 19 7-03 P

DIRECTOR AND SAC ROUTINE

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, ISC. CULTURAL DIVISION, NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, ROOM TWO NAUGHT FOUR, THREE NAUGHT SEVEN LENOX AVE., NYC IN PRESS RELEASE STATED NATIONAL OFFICERS OF NNC AND CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS HAVE MERGED BUT CULTURAL DIVISION OF NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS IS BEING REORGANIZED AS AN INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION CARRYING ON THE SAME FUNCTIONS UNDER TITLE QUOTE COMMITTEE FOR THE NEGRO IN THE ARTS UNQUOTE. PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE IS TO PROCURE FULLEST PARTICIPATION OF NEGRO IN ARTS AND TO INFLUENCE THE PUBLIC IN ACCEPTING THE NEGRO ON SAME BASIS AS EVERY OTHER AMERICAN ARTIST, GRANTING HIM FREE EXPRESSION IN ANY AND ALL OF THE ARTS. AMONG THE INITIATING SPONSORS OF THIS ORGANIZATION ARE PAUL ROBESON, GEORGE ABBOTT, LOUIS ADAMIC, FRANKLIN P. ADAMS, LIBBY HOLMAN, LANGSTON HUGHES, LEE SABINSON, JOSH WHITE, KENNETH SPENCER, HAZEL SCOTT AND OTHERS. SYLVIA GOLDEN APPEARS TO BE ONE OF THE GUIDING FIGURES IN THE NEW ORGANIZATION.

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DATE 6/12/79 BY SP-6 SK/LK

cc: Mr Pace

13-639

FBI ALSO RELAY FOR CGO AND XX AND ST LOUIS WA

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 18, 1948

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(Bureau File 61-6728)

Reference is made to New York teletype to the Bureau and Washington Field dated 1/19/48.

b7D

There is enclosed herewith information received from [redacted] and from [redacted] relative to the merger of the National Negro Congress with the Civil Rights Congress. The copy of the exhibit was obtained from [redacted] b7D The original exhibit obtained from [redacted] on 2/10/48 has been made an exhibit to the file in this office.

[redacted] is a "Statement of the Merger of the National Negro Congress With the Civil Rights Congress" issued by the Joint Committee of the N.N.C. and C.R.C. appointed in Chicago, Illinois, 11/22,23/47 by the National Board of the N.N.C. and the National Conference of the C.R.C.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

The information furnished by [redacted] consists of a press release dated 1/12/48 in which it was announced that with the merger of the New York offices of the N.N.C. and C.R.C. the Cultural Division of the N.N.C. would be reorganized as an independent organization carrying on the same functions under the title of the "Committee For The Negro In The Arts". The initiating sponsors of this new organization were listed as MARGARET WEBSTER, PAUL ROBESON and CARL VAN DOREN. Contained in this press release was a list of the artists, writers, poets and so forth, who have aided in the formation of the new organization.

b7D

[redacted] advised that upon inquiry at the office of the National Negro Congress, 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City, on 2/8/48 he was advised that the National Negro Congress has been completely dissolved. He observed that the former members of the N.N.C. staff at the headquarters, REVELS CAYTON and THELMA DALE, were no longer employed there. The office at 307 Lenox Avenue is now occupied by the Civil Rights Congress, and is managed by BERT ALVES who is in the process of organizing a Harlem Branch of the Civil Rights Congress to supplement the work of the defunct National Negro Congress.

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ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

~~SEARCHED INDEXED~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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MAR 5 1948

G. I. R. -4

Lt. to Director
NY 100-[redacted]633

In the "New York Times" dated 2/9/48, page 25, column 5, there appeared the following notice: "The more serious and talented young negro musicians received an 'open hearing' last night at Town Hall. They were presented by the Committee For The Negro In The Arts, which has taken over the musical program of the now dissolved Cultural Division of the National Negro Congress."

With the dissolution of the National Negro Congress this case will, in the immediate future, be closed with the submission of a report summarizing activities of the organization prior to the merger with the Civil Rights Congress. [redacted]

0/5

Encs. (4)

CC Washington Field (Encs. 2)
NY 100-80675 (Civil Rights Congress)

From: Cultural Division, National Negro Congress
Room 2[illegible]
307 Lenox Avenue
New York 27, N. Y.
Sylvia Golden
Mo 2-4570

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 12th, 1948

The National offices of the National Negro Congress and the Civil Rights Congress have merged. The Cultural Division of the National Negro Congress is being reorganized as an independent organization carrying on the same functions under the title of the 'Committee for the Negro in the Arts'.

As heretofore, the purpose of the Committee is to procure the fullest participation of the Negro in the arts, culturally as well as practically. In addition, we shall work to influence the public in accepting the Negro on the same basis as every other American artist, granting him free expression in any and all of the arts.

One out of every ten Americans is a Negro. Recent surveys in the fields of radio, film, music, theatre, publishing and advertising have revealed startling figures; for instance, in the field of radio only 1 out of every 1500 people employed is a Negro.

FROM: Civil Rights Congress, 205 E. 42 Street
New York City (MUrray Hill 4-6647)

National Negro Congress, 307 Lenox Avenue
New York City (MOnument 2-4570)

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1947

The Civil Rights Congress announced this week plans to create a CRC Committee on Negro Rights "to implement the recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil Rights as regards the democratic rights of the Negro people."

This announcement is included in a "Statement on the Merger of the National Negro Congress with the Civil Rights Congress", issued by a Joint Committee of the two organizations upon authorization of the NNC National Board and the CRC National Conference; both of which met in Chicago, Ill., November 20-23.

Hailing the NNC-CRC merger "as an occasion for throwing its resources, even more fully than in the past, into the struggle for the democratic rights of the Negro people", the Joint Committee statement outlined the following plans for the immediate future:

1. Creation of a national Negro Rights Committee of CRC;
2. Organization of an Anti-Lynch Crusade to Washington D.C. during February 1948;
3. Taking over the former NNC office (307 Lenox Avenue) as the Harlem office of the CRC of New York;
4. Invitations to NNC National Board members to serve on the board of CRC;
5. Invitations to autonomous NNC local councils to become CRC affiliates; and
6. Provision for transfer of NNC memberships to CRC without payment of additional fees.

The joint statement was signed, for the National Negro Congress, by Thelma Dale, Acting Secretary, Ernest Thompson and Doxey A. Wilkerson, members of the National Board; and for the Civil Rights Congress by George Marshall, chairman of the Board; Joseph Cadden, National Executive Secretary; and Louis Colman, Executive Secretary of the New York Civil Rights Congress.

-30-

NOTE: The complete text of the "Statement on the Merger of the National Negro Congress with the Civil Rights Congress" is attached.

STATEMENT OF THE MERGER OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS WITH THE CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS

(Issued by the Joint Committee of the NNC and CRC appointed in Chicago, Ill., November 22-23, 1947, by the National Board of the National Negro Congress, and the National Conference of the Civil Rights Congress)

The recent decisions of the National Board of the National Negro Congress and the National Conference of the Civil Rights Congress to merge the national offices of our two organizations mark an historic event of primary importance. This merger gives organizational expression to the developing alliance between the Negro freedom movement and the broader struggle against the current drive of reaction to stamp out the historic freedoms of the whole American people.

During the past eleven years the National Negro Congress has pioneered in the struggle for Negro democratic rights, and has done much to build unity between the Negro people and all labor-progressive forces in our country. During the past two decades the Civil Rights Congress and its forerunners (i.e., International Labor Defense, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, the Michigan Civil Rights Federation and other civil rights groups) have waged an uncompromising fight for the constitutional rights of trade unions, the foreign born, political minorities, and the Negro people, and have sought to unite these and other oppressed groups in the growing movement to preserve and extend American democratic liberties. We are certain that the merger of NNC and CRC will now serve to strengthen our heretofore cooperative efforts in the common struggle to defend the civil rights of all Americans, regardless of race, creed, national origin, or political beliefs.

The officers and National Board of the Civil Rights Congress look upon this NNC-CRC merger as a challenge to intensify the struggle for Negro rights, to carry on the grand progressive tradition of the National Negro Congress, whose leaders and affiliates CRC now welcomes into its ranks.

As initial steps toward consolidating the NNC-CRC merger and strengthening the CRC program in the field of Negro democratic rights, our Joint Committee has agreed upon the following measures:

1. The Civil Rights Congress invites all paid-up members of the National Negro Congress to transfer their membership to CRC, and will issue current membership cards to such NNC members without payment of additional membership fees.

2. Civil Rights Congress invites the cooperation on a local and national scale of all former national Board members of the National Negro Congress, many of whom have already been invited, to serve on the National Board of the Civil Rights Congress.

3. The Civil Rights Congress invites the autonomous local councils of the National Negro Congress to merge with chapters of the Civil Rights Congress or to reorganize themselves as CRC affiliates.

4. The National Negro Congress agrees to turn over all pertinent records and office equipment, leases, etc., in its national office to the Civil Rights Congress of New York, which has already undertaken to provide a

full-time staff for the service of the Harlem community in which the NNC office is located.

5. As authorized by the recent National Conference of the Civil Rights Congress (Chicago, Ill., Nov. 21-23), there shall be established within the next few weeks a Negro Rights Committee of the Civil Rights Congress, with responsibility for planning and directing the national program of CRC in this field. This Committee will seek especially to implement the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights as regards the democratic rights of the Negro people.

6. As authorized by the CRC National Conference, there shall be organized a mass Anti-Lynch Crusade to the nation's capital during February 1948, for the purpose of insisting upon immediate passage of a federal anti-lynch law.

One of the truly important political developments in America is the growing unity and militancy of the Negro people in their struggle against increasing Jim Crow oppression. By its very nature, this struggle greatly strengthens the fight for protection of the civil rights of all Americans. The NNC-CRC merger adds to Civil Rights Congress new strength and resources and enables it thereby to contribute even more fully than in the past, to the struggle for the democratic rights of the Negro people.

(Signed) FOR THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS:

Thelma M. Dale, Acting Secretary

Ernest Thompson, member of the National Board

Doxey A. Wilkerson, member of the National Board

FOR THE CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS:

George Marshall, Chairman of the National Board

Joseph Cadden, National Executive Director

Louis Colman, Executive Secretary of the New York Civil Rights Congress

New York City
December 4, 1947

) (2-7-79)

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F. DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson ( )
Mr. E. A. Tamm ( )
Mr. Clegg ( )
Mr. Glavin ( )
Mr. Ladd ( )
Mr. Nichols ( )
Mr. Rosen ( )
Mr. Tracy ( )
Mr. Gurnea ( )
Mr. Harbo ( )
Mr. Mohr ( )
Mr. Nease ( )
Miss Gandy ( )
( )

Let me have material upon which this is predicated.

See Me ( )
Note and Return ( )
For Your Recommendation ( )
What are the facts? ( )
Remarks:

61-1738-1 ?

ICLD

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: 8-47

FROM : MR. EDW. A. TAMM

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

[redacted]

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/12/79 BY SP-1 65/PW

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lardner
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Nease
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahn
Miss Gandy

Please note the attached letter to all Agents in Charge indicating the Communist Party program for infiltration of the NAACP. Do you think it would be worthwhile for you to write a letter in a personal vein to [redacted] advising him of this Communist Party program. If you do, such a letter will be prepared.

Attachment
EAT:ml

ENCL

I think letter should be prepared
9-18

RECORDED 61-7281

RECORDED 19 FEB 28 1948

F B I

MAR 4 1948

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

DATE: 9-10-47

FROM : J. P. Coyne

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
[redacted]
Internal Security - C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

There is attached hereto for your approval a letter to all SAC's concerning a new program which has been outlined by the National Board of the Communist Party, indicating that the Party is going to concentrate its efforts of infiltrating the ranks of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and allow the National Negro Congress to slowly go out of existence.

In view of this change in policy with regard to the Negro question on the part of the Communist Party, the proposed letter to all Special Agents in Charge has been prepared.

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DATE 6/12/79 BY SP-1 CSK/RCB

61-6728-632

Attachment

RECORDED 19 FEB 28 1948

60 MAR 4 1948

JJC:mm

BOARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI

DATE: March 3, 1948

FROM: SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

117067

On January 6, 1948, [redacted] made available to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] and Special Employee [redacted] the following information [redacted]

b7D, C

DEFERRED RECORDING

This information consists of minutes taken at the National Board Meeting of the National Negro Congress held November 22, 1947, at Hull House, Chicago, Illinois. These minutes concerned themselves with summary discussion and decisions by the National Board of the National Negro Congress. They are being furnished to you for your information.

WHR:SDS
100-1049

Enclosure

cc: New York (Enclosure)

G.I.R. 4

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DATE 6/12/79 BY SP-1 CSK/RB

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29 MAR 5 1948

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71MAR16 1948

NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
November 22, 1947
8:30 PM

NATIONAL BOARD MEETING
Hull House
Chicago, Ill.

MINUTES

Chairman: Matt Crawford

Present: Thelma M. Dale, Hilliard Ellis, Pope Huff, William L. Patterson, Jack Raskin, C. LeBron Simmons, Ferdinand C. Smith, Vera Vanderburg, Dorey A. Wilkerson; Albert George, Naola Smith.

Agenda: 1. Finance

2. Max Yergan Resignation

3. Executive Committee Proposal on Future of NNC

SUMMARY DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS:

1. An audited statement of assets and liabilities as at November 18th, 1947 was presented, indicating a deficit of $709.50. It was indicated that this report was a tentative one and that a final financial statement would be presented in writing to all members of the National Board.

m/s/c - 1. That the report be accepted as tentative pending final audited statement.
2. That a small committee be established to work out liquidation of all bills.

2. The letter of resignation from the chairmanship of the National Negro Congress from Dr. Max Yergan, which had been sent to all Board Members, was read. Dr. Yergan indicated his reason for resigning as a lack of time for NNC work and indicated the resignation would be effective as of the date of his letter (November 7, 1947).

Mr. Smith moved to reject the resignation. Mr. Smith, speaking on his motion, said he felt the resignation should be rejected because the motive in resigning was not as stated in Dr. Yergan's letter, but was tied up with the whole question of the future of NNC.

Mr. Ellis moved to table the resignation until point 3 on the agenda was dealt with. The motion to table was defeated. Mr. Smith's motion to reject the resignation was also defeated; and a motion to accept the resignation was placed and carried.

3. The statement on the future of NNC embodying the proposal to merge with the NNC National Office with the Civil Rights Congress, as sent to all Board members and a number of Council leaders, was read. After an extended discussion on the proposals, a motion was made and carried to accept the proposals as outlined. The following persons voted in favor of the proposals: Dale, Huff, Patterson, Crawford, Vanderberg, Wilkerson, Raskin; by mail proxy: Edmonia Grant, Ewart Guinier, Ernest Thompson, Herbert Aptheker, Josh Lawrence, Frederick Field, Dorothy Funn, Henry Winston, George Murphy, Conchita Morrison, William Hepburn. Opposed: Ferdinand C. Smith. Abstaining: C. LeBron Simmons.

m/s/c — That a committee consisting of Thelma Dale, Ernest Thompson and Dorey Wilkerson be empowered to work with a committee of the Civil Rights Congress to effect the merger, meanwhile agreeing upon definite steps to assure that CRC will carry forward vigorously the NNC's historic struggles for Negro democratic rights; and also to handle all problems with regard to the closing of the National office, including payment of all bills, closing the bank account, notification of councils and Board members of final disposition of the effects of the National office.

(over)

m/s/c — That Thelma Dale present the agreement of the Board to merge with CRC at the business session of CRC Convention on Sunday, November 23rd, 1947.

While reiterating the autonomy of the Local councils of NNC in their financial and other relations, it was felt by the Board that where necessary, Board members should assist local councils in liquidating outstanding indebtedness.

The following Board members accepted responsibility in connection with the following areas: Chicago - Ellis and Patterson; Detroit - Simmons and Vanderburg; California - Crawford.

MEETING ADJOURNED

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FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 10, 1948

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference is made to Detroit letter dated March 3, 1948, forwarding a photographic copy of the minutes of the National Board meeting of the National Negro Congress held at the Hull House, Chicago, Illinois, on November 22, 1947, in which it was revealed that the NNC planned to merge with the CRC.

There has been no indication of a merger of the CRC and NNC in Detroit; however, the Detroit Council of the NNC has relinquished its office at 114 Erskine, Detroit, Michigan, and this office is not aware of any activity on the part of this organization.

It should be noted that an article appearing in the December 28, 1947, issue of the Michigan Herald, a Communist Party newspaper in Detroit, reported that the Ann Arbor Chapter of the NNC had voted to apply for a National Association For Advancement of Colored People charter.

b7D

On May 26, 1948, [redacted] of the NAACP in Detroit, Michigan, advised that he had never heard of the proposed application by the NNC or its acceptance. He was of the opinion that the NAACP would not consider such an application and if it had he would undoubtedly know about it.

In view of the above circumstances this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

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G. I. R. -7

MCW:VLM
100-1049
cc New York [redacted]

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INDEXED - 39

61-6728

F B I

10 JUN 14 1948

COPY:AJH

SAC, WASHINGTON

May 8, 1948

Director, FBI

[redacted]

NEGRO YOUTH CONGRESS;

[redacted]

0/S

A number of loyalty forms concerning employees from thePanama Canal Zone reflect membership in the above captioned organizations. The Washington Field Office is requested to ascertain from the files of ONI and the Intelligence Division of the Department of the Army whether any of the captioned organizations are affiliated with organizations of similar name in the United States and whether any of these organizations are or have been engaged in activity that would bring them within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The results of your inquiry should reach the Bureau not later than May 20, 1948.

For the assistance of the Washington Field Office, the Bureau has a copy of an intelligence report dated July 5, 1943, issued by the Intelligence Division of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, serial #87-43, Monogram Index Guide #202-300 over 102-200, entitled, "Panama - People and Social Forces - Foreign Groups-Negroes," which reflects that the Isthmian Negro Youth Congress showed no evidence of communism, subversion or activity inimical to the interests of the United States at the present time (1943). The Bureau also has a copy of a Military Attache Report #520, Military Intelligence Division, W.D.G.S., dated November 13, 1944, for Panama and the Canal Zone, entitled, "Isthmian Negro Youth Congress," I.G. #6750 over x2010. This report mentions the part played by the Isthmian Negro Youth Congress in the celebration of the Independence of Panama and points to cooperation existing between the Isthmian Negro Youth Congress and various leftist elements of Panama. (64-31445) (64-2503-5)

The Bureau files contain no further information relative to the captioned organizations.

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EX-20

42 JUL 15 1948

59 JUN 22 1948

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK Cgo. FILE NO. 100-1524

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	10/27/48	9/16, 17,20,21,23, 24/48	[redacted] HBB:DJS

TITLE		CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS	APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED REGARDING SUBJECT classification DATE 7/4/79 SP-1/85	INTERNAL SECURITY—C

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP1 6/12/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.2
DATE OF ENTRY FOR DECLASSIFICATION 6/12/89

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: At the National Conference of the Civil Rights Congress, November 21, 22, and 23, 1947, in Chicago, announcement was made that the Executive Board of the National Negro Congress accepted an offer previously made "to consolidate its forces with that of the Civil Rights Congress."

[redacted] b1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

- R U C -

REFERENCES: Bureau File No. 61-6728
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 8, 1947, at Chicago, Illinois
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 16, 1947, at New York, New York

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Subsequent to the National Conference of the Civil Rights Congress held in Chicago November 21, 22, and 23, 1947, [redacted] provided this Office with a summary report of the

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
H. R. McIlvain		61-6728-637	RECORDED - 37
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Cgo. File No. 100-1524

proceedings of this conference. The report reflected that under a special order of business the Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress, THELMA DALE, informed the conference that the Executive Board of the National Negro Congress at a special meeting in Chicago voted to accept the invitation previously extended by the Civil Rights Congress for closer cooperation between the two organizations, offering to "consolidate its forces with that of the Civil Rights Congress." This National Negro Congress proposal was adopted unanimously and the conference voted to set up a joint committe of both organizations to arrange details of the merger with the Civil Rights Congress with respect to program and organization.

[redacted] (c) b1

[redacted] b1 (c)

[redacted] b1 (c)

CONFIDENTIAL

Cgo. File No. 100-1524

The Civil Rights Congress, according to Attorney General TOM C. CLARK on November 24, 1947, is an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] concerning the Communist Party's concentration in several Negro organizations, principally the National Negro Congress and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, a decision was made to form a new Negro commission to be known as the Illinois Negro Commission of the Communist Party. Apparently this commission was to be the directing factor in the Party's activities in the Negro field. Among those to be included in this new commission was [redacted]

b2
b7D

[redacted] b1 (c)

[redacted] (c) b1

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) (2-7-79)

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Cgo. File No. 100-1524

[redacted] (c)

[redacted] (c)

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] of the National Negro Congress, b2
concerning the National Negro Congress. [redacted] advised that he planned a campaign on behalf of the National Negro Congress in the communities where there are large numbers of Negroes in industry. He specifically mentioned Auto, Packing, and Farm Equipment. [redacted] agreed that there would have to be an over-all drive, but that the matter should be taken up with the Secretariat since it involved trade unions in addition to the Communist Party.

[redacted] b2 b7D

[redacted] b7D

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Cgo. File No. 100-1524

[redacted]

[redacted] the future of the National Negro Congress was discussed and the general opinion was expressed that the National Negro Congress would not survive and should be liquidated. It was felt that Negro unity could best be welded through the Civil Rights Congress rather than through the National Negro Congress. It was also suggested at this time that if the National Negro Congress were liquidated, [redacted] be placed as a full-time worker in the Civil Rights Congress.

b2
b7D

[redacted]

b1
(c)

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK NY FILE NO. 100-3633 IM

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK	12/9/48	4/28;6/3;9/23,30; 10/14,24,27/47; 1/13,15,19;2/9, 10,18;3/19;10/14, 15,18-21,26,27/48	[redacted] b7c
TITLE			CHARACTER OF CASE
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS			INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] meeting of the National Board, NNC, on 11/22/47 at Chicago, Ill., a merger of the NNC and the Civil Rights Congress was effected. A statement of merger was issued 12/4/47, signed by a joint committee of the NNC and CRC, which statement reflected the merger was made "to give organizational expression to developing the alliance between the Negro freedom movement and a broader struggle against the current drive of reaction to stamp out the historic freedoms of American people." On 12/8 the CRC announced plans for the creation of a "Civil Rights Committee on Negro Rights." The National Office of the NNC at 607 Lenox Avenue, NYC, has been converted into the Harlem Branch of the CRC. Constitution of the NNC obtained.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUALS ADVISED PER NOTING SLIP(S) Class. DATE 2/16/79 Spl

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CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP-1 6/12/79
REASON FOR EXTENSION 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION 6/12/89

ATTACHED

- C -

REFERENCE: Bureau file: 61-6728
Report of SA [redacted] 4/25/47, New York
New York letter to Bureau, 2/18/48

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 New York

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NY 100-3633

DETAILS:

This report is submitted for the purpose of consolidating the information received concerning the dissolution of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (NNC) and the subsequent merger with the Civil Rights Congress (CRC). The first part of the report will contain information relative to the dissolution of the NNC. The second part of the report will contain information concerning the general activity of the NNC prior to the dissolution.

I.

INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

[redacted] b1 (c)

[redacted] (e)

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[redacted] the National Board of the Communist Party to disband the NNC. [redacted] Communist Party functionary of District #3, was delegated by the Party to carry out the directives made by the National Board concerning the dissolution of the NNC.

[redacted] the Philadelphia chapter of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS was officially disbanded upon receipt of orders from the National

CONFIDENTIAL

NY 100-3683

Board of the Communist Party. b7D

[redacted] reported that nothing definite was planned at this meeting relative to what steps the former members of the NNC should take in the matter of joining either the NAACP or another progressive Negro organization. [redacted] reported that the Washington Council of the NNC was officially dissolved at this meeting.

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[redacted] made available to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] of the Detroit Office, the minutes taken at the National Board meeting of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS held November 22, 1947, at Hull House, Chicago, Illinois. This information has been furnished to the Bureau. A summary of information contained in the minutes reflects the following concerning the future of the NNC:

It was reported that as of November 18, 1947, the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS was operating at a deficit of $709.50. A statement on the future of the NNC embodied the proposal to merge the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS. This statement was read, a vote was taken and it was agreed that such a merger should be effected. A committee consisting of THELMA DALE, ERNEST THOMPSON and DOXEY WILKERSON was selected and was empowered to work with the committee of the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS to effect the merger. It was pointed out that definite steps should be made to assure that the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS will carry forward vigorously the NNC'S historic struggles for Negro democratic rights. The committee was empowered to handle all problems with regard to the physical closing of the office of the NNC and to officially make a notification of the merger of the two organizations. It was agreed that the National Board members of the NNC should assist the local councils of the organization in liquidating the outstanding indebtedness of each council.

[redacted] a copy of the "Statement of the Merger of the National Negro Congress with the Civil Rights Congress." A copy of this statement has been previously forwarded to the Bureau. A summary of pertinent parts of this statement reflecting on the future of the NNC is set out below: b7D

> "The recent decisions of the National Board of the NNC and the National Conference of the Civil Rights Congress to merge the national offices of our two organizations mark a historic event of primary importance. This merger gives organizational expression to the developing alliance between the Negro freedom movement and a broader struggle against the current drive of reaction to stamp out the historic freedoms of American people."

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"1. The Civil Rights Congress invites all paid up members of the National Negro Congress to transfer their membership to the Civil Rights Congress and the latter will issue current membership cards to such NNC members without payment of additional membership fees.

"2. The Civil Rights Congress invites the cooperation on a local and national scale of all former National Board members of the NNC, many of whom have already been invited to serve on a National Board of the Civil Rights Congress.

"3. The Civil Rights Congress invites the autonomous local councils of the National Negro Congress to merge with chapters of the Civil Rights Congress or to reorganize themselves as Civil Rights Congress affiliates.

"4. The National Negro Congress agrees to turn over all pertinent records and office equipment, leases, etc., in its national office to the Civil Rights Congress of New York which has already undertaken to provide a full time staff for the service of the Harlem Community, in which the NNC office is located.

"5. As authorized by the recent national conference of the Civil Rights Congress (Chicago, Illinois, November 21-23rd) there shall be established within the next few weeks a Negro Rights Committee of the Civil Rights Congress with responsibility for planning and directing the national program of the Civil Rights Congress in this field. This committee will seek especially to implement the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights as regards the democratic rights of the Negro people.

"6. As authorized by the Civil Rights Congress national convention there shall be organized a mass anti-lynch crusade for the purpose of insisting upon the immediate passage of the Anti-Lynch Law."

The statement of merger was signed by the following three members for the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS:

THELMA M. DALE - Acting Secretary
ERNEST THOMPSON - Member of the National Board

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DOXEY WILKERSON - Member of the National Board

The following signed for the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS:

GEORGE MARSHALL - Chairman of the National Board
JOSEPH CADDEN - National Executive Director
LOUIS WOLMAN - Executive Secretary of the New York Civil Rights Congress

The "Daily Worker" of November 25, 1947, Page 5, Column 2, carried a brief announcement of the merger of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS.

In the New York "World-Telegram" of December 2, 1947, under the by-line of FREDERICK WOLTMAN, "World-Telegram" staff writer, there appeared an article recording the merger of the two organizations. The following is quoted from this article:

"The Communist party has decided to scrap one of its pet fronts, the National Negro Congress and concentrate on infiltrating the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the country's foremost non-political Negro organizations, with 1509 branches and 580,000 members.

"A secret decision to liquidate its 11-year-old front among the Negroes and try to capture branches of the NAACP was reached last summer by the Communists' top national committee."

The article continued:

"Walter White, executive secretary of the NAACP, meanwhile told the World-Telegram today that the Communist party has already tried to infiltrate eight of its branches.

"'We cracked down quickly,' Mr. White said, 'and will continue to be watchful.'

"'It has long been Moscow's tactics to direct its local Communist parties to concentrate on persons most exploited. This is nothing new to us. But we won't let any political party to come in and dictate our policy or use the NAACP for its own purposes.'

"'Undoubtedly,' he added, 'it was originally the plan of the National Negro Congress to step in and displace the NAACP. That failed.'"

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In the "Worker" for December 21, 1947, Section 1, Page 7, Column I, in an article entitled, "Face to Face" by BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, the question of the merger of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS and the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS was taken up. In this article DAVIS, who is a member of the National Board of the Communist Party, pointed out that the merger of the two organizations would bring about a much more effective, unified and broad defense of the civil liberties of the Negro people, labor and all the other minorities now under violent attack. DAVIS stated that this merger will be enthusiastically welcomed by all who see the Fascist danger to civil rights and by all who realize that the more organizations get together to fight back, either through merger or through some other form of collaboration, the more chance there is of successfully defending the democratic liberties of the American people.

DAVIS criticized the article in the "World-Telegram" by FRED WOLTMAN mentioned heretofore. DAVIS also severely criticized WALTER WHITE, Executive Secretary of the NAACP, for his statements made to WOLTMAN.

[redacted] advised that the offices of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS at 307 Lenox Avenue, New York City, have been taken over by the Harlem Branch of the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS. He stated that BERT ALVES has been designated as the head of the Harlem Branch of the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS. [redacted] the former staff members of the NNC, REVELS CAYTON and THELMA DALE, were no longer employed at the headquarters. [redacted] that all former members of the NNC in New York City are being invited to join the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS. [redacted] indicated that the records and membership lists of the NNC are in the possession of the CRC.

[redacted] advised that in January 1948, a statement was made by the merged NNC and CRC to the effect that the Cultural Division of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS was being reorganized as an independent organization and would carry on the same functions under the title of the "Committee for the Negro in the Arts." It was reported that the purpose of the committee is "to procure the fullest participation of the Negro in the arts, culturally as well as practically. In addition, we shall work to influence the public in accepting the Negro on the same basis as every other American artist, granting him free expression in any and all of the arts." The initiating sponsors of the organization were listed as follows:

MARGARET WEBSTER	FRANKLIN P. ADAMS
PAUL ROBESON	LIBBY HOLMAN
CARL VAN DOREN	LANGSTON HUGHES
GEORGE ABBOTT	LEE SABINSON
LOUIS ADAMIC	JOSH WHITE
KEN SPENCER	HAZEL SCOTT
	SYLVIA GOLDEN

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The "New York Times" of February 9, 1948, Page 25, Column 6, reported that the "Committee for the Negro in the Arts" presented a program at Town Hall on February 8, 1948.

[redacted] and [redacted] reported that the "Committee for the Negro in the Arts" has not been active in the New York area. The informants were of the opinion that the organization was first established to take care of the immediate interests of the former members of the Cultural Division of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS. [redacted] reported, however, that the work of the committee would gradually be taken over by other progressive organizations in New York City and the committee would gradually dissolve. b7D

[redacted] a copy of the Constitution of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS which was forwarded to this office. A copy of the Constitution is being submitted to the Bureau with this report. b7D

II.

GENERAL ACTIVITY OF THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS PRIOR TO ITS DISSOLUTION

[redacted] b7D

a memorandum to the council leaders and national board members of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS which was submitted by the Organization Department. This memorandum concerned the membership campaign sponsored by the NNC from June 2, 1946, to May 30, 1947. In this memorandum it was pointed out that the total quota for new members in the NNC was set at 76,150 members. The national representatives in charge of the membership campaign are as follows:

In the Midwest:	C. LeBRUN SIMMONS
Ohio:	THELMA M. DALE
Illinois, Indiana, New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts:	EDWARD E. STRONG
New Jersey:	ERNEST THOMPSON MARCEL SCHERER ELWOOD M. DEAN
Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Washington and Virginia:	WILLIAM J. DAVIS
In the South:	RAYMOND FILLMAN

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Pacific Coast:

REVELS CAYTON
OLIVER BOAT
MATT CRAWFORD

b7C,D

[redacted] a report of the Conference of Negro Trade Unionists and Their Sponsors. This conference was held on March 23, 1947 at Tom Mooney Hall, 13 Astor Place, New York City. The temporary officers of this conference were DON SMITH, Chairman, CHARLES COLLINS, Secretary and REVELS CAYTON. A review of this report reflects that at this conference the following resolutions were adopted on the following questions:

1. Job and Economic Security
2. Anti-Labor Legislation
3. Foreign Policy
4. Political Action
5. Civil Rights for Minority Parties
6. Negro Trade Union Delegation to Europe
7. May Day

A review of the items set forth under each of the above mentioned topics revealed that the conference followed the current Communist Party line in each of these matters. In the question of foreign policy, the following items were noted:

1. Urge the American people to demand the immediate revocation of the Truman policy of unilateral intervention

2. To oppose relief and arms to Nationalist China

3. To demand that Truman place on the United Nations agenda the question of Franco Spain

4. To demand the release of American seamen taken prisoners by the British in Palestine

5. To support the relief programs and oppose armaments shipment

6. To demand (of Truman, Dewey, et al) that Marshall's statement of democracy be applied to Negroes in America

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7. To send delegates to Washington to protest the present foreign policy

8. To instruct the Continuations Committee to urge the State Department to use its influence to open doors of Palestine to the Jews

9. To demand that our knowledge of atomic energy be used for full employment, security and for industrial uses, and not as a war weapon

[redacted] advised that the San Antonio Council of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS became inactive as of the Spring of 1947. [redacted] reported that there was no activity on the part of the council prior to the actual disbandment of the organization. b7D

[redacted] advised that the Detroit Council of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS was inactive for a period of approximately one year prior to its official disbandment. b2 b7D

[redacted] reported that the New York Council of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS became inactive in the Spring of 1947 when it became known that MAX YERGAN, the president of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS, would resign from the leadership of the organization. [redacted] stated that a regional office of the organization at 607 Lenox Avenue, for approximately one year prior to the time the organization was dissolved, was having great difficulty in meeting the financial indebtedness of the organization throughout the country. [redacted] reported that the organization actually ceased to operate fully a year before the official step was taken by the members of the National Board of the Communist Party and the members of the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS to dissolve the organization. b7D

In view of the fact that information received shows that the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS has actually dissolved and the activities of the organization taken over by the CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS, this case is being closed.

ENCLOSURE TO BUREAU:

1 Photostatic copy of the Constitution of the National Negro Congress [redacted] b7D

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CONSTITUTION

National Negro Congress

307 Lenox Ave

New York City

Max Yergan, Paul Robeson, Cyril Briggs

President, Secretary, Treasurer

CONSTITUTION
of the
NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS

PREAMBLE

During an epoch in history when the major human effort is toward building a civilization wherein freedom, security, dignity and peace would be guaranteed for all mankind, the National Negro Congress was born as an instrument for the attainment of these goals, especially in reference to the American Negro.

This epoch in human development has been sharpened as a result of the second world war which embraced people of every continent and origin as they united to defeat the brutal hand of fascism which threatened the very existence of our civilization. The National Negro Congress was born during a period characterized by the rising movement of oppressed peoples to throw off the yoke of colonial exploitation. Today the discovery of atomic power further challenges mankind to win the struggle for freedom and lasting peace.

The National Negro Congress sprang into existence out of the heart of the Negro people's deep and passionate yearning for and determination to achieve full dignity and equality of existence among the peoples of the earth. The National Negro Congress inherits the rich contributions of the Negro people to the best traditions of America embracing the fighting courage of Crispus Attucks, Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Gabriel, Denmark Vesey, Nat Turner, Harriet Tubman and Dorie Miller.

The National Negro Congress is an anti-fascist instrument of struggle of an oppressed people with their allies, pledged to carry forward the militant spirit of that people. It gathers strength from the working class unity of Negro and white workers within the organized labor movement, and in other peoples' organizations. The program of the National Negro Congress must be a common ground upon which all people interested in Negro rights and the promotion of democracy for all Americans can meet and pool their strength and resources toward the goal of social, economic and political freedom. The Congress seeks to achieve its objectives through constructive and united action with labor, church, civic and fair minded Americans.

In order that the National Negro Congress may strengthen the character and quality of the struggle for full freedom of the Negro people in America and for the liberation of all peoples, this Constitution is adopted.

* * * * * * * *

ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as the NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS (N. N. C.)

ARTICLE II

The objects of this organization are:

1. To secure for the Negro people full citizenship rights, especially those guaranteed by the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Federal Constitution.
2. To secure the right of the Negro people to be free from jim-crowism, segregation, discrimination, lynching and mob violence and to work for the enactment of Federal anti-lynching legislation.
3. To secure employment for the Negro people free from all manner of job discrimination by governmental agencies and private industry.
4. To promote the cuase of trade unionism among Negroes and to work for the organization of Negro workers into trade unions on a basis of full equality with all other trade union members.
5. To work for effective and adequate local, state and national programs for meeting the educational, health and housing needs of the people without discrimination with respect to geographical areas, race, color, creed or national origin, and to provide for security against old age, unemployment and want.
6. To foster the cultural development and expression of the Negro people, to spread the truth regarding their traditions and contributions to American democracy, and to combat all falsifications and distortions of their historic role in American life.
7. To promote the cuase of peace, to further the aims of the United Nations, to aid the liberation of the oppressed peoples of Africa, the West Indies, Latin America, the Middle and Far East, China and India; peoples whose aspirations for freedom are one with ours; to oppose imperialist wars and oppression and to strive for the realization of a genuine brotherhood of men.

8. To work to end all discrimination, and especially segregation, in our armed forces.

9. To promote the spirit of unity and cooperation between the Negro and white people in a common struggle for their mutual welfare and advancement.

ARTICLE III - Basic Organization

1. The organization shall be based upon Councils, composed of individual members in local communities, trade unions, churches and other local organizations, which Councils shall be chartered by the National Executive Board.

2. Affiliation by trade unions and other bodies of working people, small businessmen, professional and national groups, shall be sought on a local, state and national level. Such affiliation groups shall be recognized in accordance with the rules and programs laid down by the National Convention or National Executive Board.

3. Cooperation by organizations of similar ideals and objectives shall be on a basis to be determined by the National Executive Board.

4. Twenty-five or more individuals who apply for membership in the National Negro Congress, with the approval of the National Board, shall be entitled to receive a charter as a Council of the National Negro Congress upon condition that:

   a. The membership is financial;

   b. The Council subscribes to and carries out the program of the National Negro Congress.

5. A Charter and such other material pertinent to Council organization shall be issued to the secretary of the Council by the National Office on payment of the prescribed Charter Fee of $10.00.

6. The Council shall elect at least the following minimum number of officers:

President		Vice President
Secretary,	or	Executive Secretary
Treasurer		

7. The local constitution or by-laws of a Council shall be submitted to, and approved by the National Office.

8. The Council shall make every effort to secure the affiliation of local church groups, trade union groups, professional groups, and other sections of the Negro and white population in the community, shop, trade union, or local sub-division who are interested in the program of the National Negro Congress.

9. In addition to its frequent regular meetings, each Council shall have one annual membership meeting, where the President and other officers will give a report of their functioning to the members of the Council and shall submit a copy of such report to the National Office. Election of officers shall take place at this annual meeting, due notice having been given the members.

10. Councils shall be chartered on the basis of geographical units, e.g., City, County or State.

11. Although the special emphasis for membership in the Council is directed toward Negroes, Councils are required to open their membership to all persons interested and subscribing to the program of the National Negro Congress, regardless of race, color, creed or national origin.

12. Each Council in good standing shall have one delegate to the National Convention, and in addition, shall be entitled to one for

13. The dues for membership in the National Negro Congress shall be paid to the local Councils and shall be $1.00 per year. 50¢ for each member shall be forwarded to the National Office. Membership shall be for one year from the date of joining.

14. Councils will render assistance to any duly accredited representative of the National Office carrying out the aims and purposes of the National Negro Congress.

15. The Charter of a Council may, for due cause, be revoked by the National Executive Board, but such revocation shall be subject to appeal to the Convention.

ARTICLE IV

National Executive Board and Officers

1. The National Executive Board shall consist of the following officers: President; 13 Vice-Presidents; Executive Secretary; and a Treasurer plus 60 Board Members.

2. The National Executive Board shall hold regular meetings at least once a year. Special meetings may be held at the Call of the Executive Secretary, which call may be initiated by the National President or by a majority of the members of the National Executive Board. Fifty per cent of the Board members, after proper notification by the Executive Secretary to all Board members of time and place of meetings, shall constitute a quorum qualified to transact all business which may come before it and the decision of a majority of the quorum present shall rule. Each member of the Board shall have one vote.

3. The National Executive Board shall execute the instructions of the Convention and between Conventions shall be the supreme executive, legislative, and judicial authority of this organization. The Board

4. The Administrative Committee shall be a policy committee between meetings of the National Executive Board.

5. The Executive Secretary shall direct the work of the National Negro Congress between meetings of the Administrative Committee and shall on all matters of policy consult at least once a month with those national officers of the National Negro Congress who reside in the region in which the national headquarters of the Congress is located. The Executive Secretary shall be paid a salary fixed by the National Executive Board and shall execute a proper bond.

6. The National Executive Board shall issue charters to the Councils and regions, and other subordinate branches of the National Negro Congress which it establishes.

7. Publication of any Official Organ of the National Negro Congress including direction of policy and business management, shall be in the hands of the National Executive Board.

8. The Executive Secretary shall, with the approval of the Administrative Committee, hire the necessary staff, purchase supplies, rent offices, and be responsible for the general functioning of the headquarters of the National Negro Congress.

9. On recommendation of the Executive Secretary, the National Executive Board shall establish a budget for the National Office.

10. On approval of the National Executive Board, the Executive Secretary shall issue the call for the biennial convention of the National Negro Congress at least 60 days prior thereto.

11. Voting representation at the Convention shall be in accordance with this Constitution and rules established by the National Executive Board provided that no subordinate body of the Congress shall have representation unless that body

12. The National Executive Board may call special Conventions to consider such matters as are indicated in the call.

13. The National Executive Board may establish honorary membership in the National Negro Congress and shall appoint an Advisory Council.

14. The National Executive Board shall establish youth and trade union departments and shall encourage the formation of similar departments by the Councils.

15. Election of officers and National Executive Board members shall be by majority vote of the convention delegates and shall be for two years or until their successors are elected at a Convention.

16. Vacancies among the officers or in the National Executive Board shall be filled by the National Executive Board.

17. The President shall preside over the Convention and meetings of the National Executive Board.

18. The National Executive Board shall interpret the meaning of the Constitution.

19. The National Executive Board shall provide for the regular audit of the books and accounts of the organization.

20. The National Executive Board shall adopt by-laws consistent with this Constitution.

21. The National Executive Board shall render to the Convention a complete report of the functioning of the Congress including a financial report and an audit.

ARTICLE V

Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by majority vote at the Convention.

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